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The Bison, November 13, 2009

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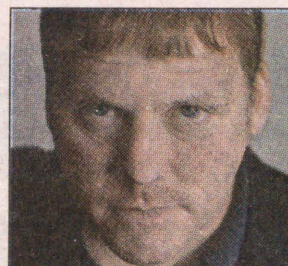
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PEOPLE
Philip Holsinger
talks about his
life as a nomadic
photographer.
Page 6B



Service through shoes

by **CARLY KESTER**
student writer

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news" (Isaiah 52:7).

This is the Bible verse for Saving Soles, a service project that donates shoes and Bibles to Christians in the Philippines.

The project was created to raise people's awareness of Christians in the Philippines and to drive people to help those in need.

Saving Soles was submitted to the Student Association by Harding students Nick Dean, Chandler Grown, Nick Smelser and Ben Stafford.

The project reaches out to Filipinos who desire to go to church but have to walk miles without shoes. Many also do not have Bibles but long to read God's word.

According to Smelser, service projects focused on the Philippines are rare because of the country's large population.

"That is why I want to be a part of starting Saving Soles," Smelser said. "The group has a two-pronged goal: to educate people about the Philippines and the needs of people over there, and to send shoes and Bibles to people in desperate need of both."

Grown admits that Saving Soles has made him realize how blessed his life has been.

"We never really know how truly fortunate we are until we lose everything or share in the struggles of those who get by on very little," Grown said. "This project means a lot to me because it feels like I am helping family that's much less fortunate."

Stafford and Dean said they hope the project will raise awareness for people in the Philippines.

"Sending Bibles and materials opens up so many doors to eventually send people there to teach more about the word of God," Stafford said.

Their goal for bringing the project to Harding is to encourage students and church members to donate old shoes that they no longer need or want.

The project will be going on for a week between Thanksgiving and Christmas break.

Dean hopes Saving Soles will not only benefit Christians in the Philippines, but also the ones at Harding.

"I want to create awareness for our brothers and sister in the Philippines so that we can go beyond a humanitarian aid mindset and develop one of global community and more importantly, one of Christ," Dean said.



photos courtesy of NOAH DARNELL and the HU PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
TOP: Sears Hall as it stands today is in need of renovation.
BOTTOM: This is an artist's rendering of how Sears Hall will look after the multimillion dollar renovation project that will be funded by bonds.

HU to raise funds for Sears Hall

by **SARAH KYLE**
news editor

The Searcy City Council voted Tuesday to approve capital improvement revenue bonds for Harding, the proceeds of which will go toward renovations to Sears Hall.

While the city has agreed to sell the bonds on behalf of the university, Harding's attorney Shep Russell stated that all financial responsibilities would rest on Harding and its investors.

"These bonds are not obligations to the city in any respect as far as repaying is concerned," Russell said.

Once sold, the bonds will total anywhere between \$4.5 and \$5 million. The council voted unanimously to approve Harding's request, with Alderman Carl Nutter publicly commending President David Burks and the university.

"It's always good to see [Burks] because it means Searcy is progressing," Nutter said.

Burks said the university is excited about the council's decision.

"We look forward to re-funding the issue and to remodeling Sears Hall," Burks said.

Freshmen and first floor Sears Hall residents Erin Simons and Elizabeth Burson said that while they love the social life of the dorm, it is in dire need of renovations.

"There's mold in our showers and on our windows and rust on the screens," Simons said. "There's a big crack in our wall, and we can see our suitemate's light on if ours is off."

Burson said that the integrity of items such as closet drawers and bathroom fixtures has begun to wane due to the dorm's age.

"Things fall a lot," Burson said. "Sometimes you have to take the whole drawer apart if you want to get anything out. Water sprays out when you turn the sink on. The shower clogs easily."

Burson added that animal and insect roommates made living in the dorm a little less pleasant.

"I think there's rats living above us because we can hear scurrying," Burson said. "We have ants."

Despite the physical problems of the dorm, the pair said they truly enjoy the social life and setup of Sears Hall.

"We have hall parties where we sit in the hall and eat pizza," Burson said. "We draw on the walls and write each other notes."

A chapel for the young at heart



photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison
Keith Cronk, Reet Cronk and Karen Hadwin get in on the coloring fun during chapel Thursday, when crayons and paper were provided for all who wished to send encouragement to the elderly through the Color A Smile program. See the full story on page 4B.

Burks gets very merry half-birthday from SA

by **JESSICA ARDREY**
student writer

Thursday morning Nov. 5, during chapel, Student Association president Bryan Clifton got up to make what everyone thought would be another announcement about another planned activity for the student body. Then the slideshow started. Old pictures of Dr. David Burks came on the screen, and two students came out from backstage carrying a cake with lots of candles. The chapel audience sang "Happy Birthday" to Burks and gave a resounding round of applause at the end.

However, Nov. 5 is not Burks's birthday. It is his half-birthday, and the SA decided to celebrate it.

"Burksday," as it was officially named, had been in the works for about six weeks. The idea came out of an SA retreat. They wanted to celebrate Burks's birthday, which is May 13, but since it is in the summer, there was no opportune time to do so.

"So we decided to change it up and go for a half-birthday, and it kind of falls at a time of year when people need a bit of a pick-me-up. Everybody's looking forward to Thanksgiving Break, so we needed some

excitement to spice things up a little," Clifton said.

The surprising part is that Burks had absolutely no idea about any of this until the 9:00 a.m. chapel presentation. Needless to say, he was a little shocked.

"I didn't know a thing in the world about it... I'd never even heard of a half-birthday!" Burks said. "The idea was brand new to me."

In order to keep him in the dark, Nate Copeland filled Burks's schedule with fake items and made sure he would be in town.

"It was not as hard as I expected," Clifton said. "A whole lot of people knew about it, yet it never got around to Dr. Burks."

Burksday was celebrated with banners, balloons and a half-birthday party that night in the cafeteria. The SA also sold T-shirts with Burks's face on them.

The party had cake, more balloons and Dr. Burks Jeopardy, complete with categories like "Deep Dark Secrets" and "Burksisms." Burks, Clifton and senior Julia Bentley competed against one another, answering questions such as "Who is the only person to ever strike fear into the eyes of Chuck Norris?" (Dr. Burks, obviously).

Burks, however, did not win the game. Bentley did.

"I needed to be quicker than Julia," Burks said. "She was too fast. She's been at our home Bible study for four years. She ought to know better," he added jokingly.

Despite the loss, he was still in good spirits, sporting one of the black-and-gold Burksday T-shirts.

"It's fun, and I love the fact that people enjoy having a good time," Burks said.

The overall response was very positive. Burksday was the topic of conversation all day, the cafeteria was packed for the party, and the SA sold more than 1,000 T-shirts.

With all this success, will Burksday become a yearly celebration?

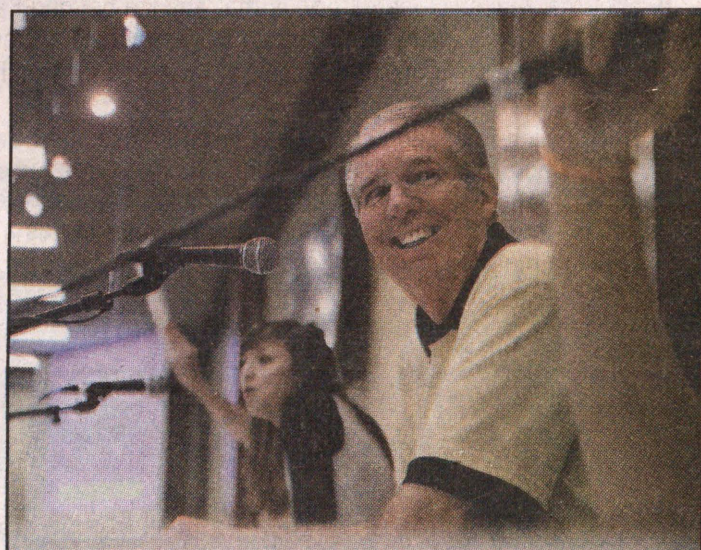


photo by NICK MICHAEL | The Bison
Seniors Julia Bentley and Bryan Clifton face off against a smiling Dr. Burks in "Dr. Burks Jeopardy" as part of Burksday.

"I don't know if it can be a traditional thing because he'll be expecting it," Clifton said. "It's kind of a one-time deal. Still, I think it went over really well, and we got a lot of good laughs out of it."

TheNewsreel

Girl sneezes more than 12,000 times a day

For over two weeks, 12-year-old Lauren Johnson has suffered from chronic sneezing, sometimes plagued by up to 12,000 sneezes a day, fox43tv.com reported.

"I can't stop sneezing," Johnson said. "It goes off about eight to nine times a minute."

What began as a cold has now been described as "machine gun sneezing," causing this sixth-grader to be absolutely miserable. She has been unable to attend school while visiting doctors. Six different doctors are perplexed by Johnson's condition; only one attempted to diagnose her, considering the possibility of "irretractable psychogenic disorder" triggered by stress.

There are only 40 documented cases in the world and no known treatment as the condition often comes and goes.

Johnson's only relief is in sleep, as REM sleep seems to "turn off" the sneezing.



Robbers return wallet after finding military ID

Four robbers in the act of mugging a 21-year-old University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee student suddenly had a change of heart in the middle of the crime. As they proceeded to rob the man of the contents of his pockets, even including a power bar wrapper, the leader of the thieves abruptly changed his mind when he found the man's military ID.

The robber's tone changed immediately once he learned the man was an Army reservist. He told the men who were with him to give the man back his belongings. The thief even went so far as to apologize and thank the man for his service to the country.

"The leader of the group actually walked back, gave me a quick fist bump, which was very strange," the man said in an interview with Fox News.

The men returned everything but his keys, going on to attempt to rob several others. Among the group's other victims was a 47-year-old convicted burglar. Apparently his Department of Corrections inmate ID did not have the same impression on the robbers as the military ID.

Massive trash patch researched in Pacific

A slowly swirling mass of trash scattered over an area nearly half the size of Texas has collected over time in the Pacific Ocean, according to recent research.

Bottle caps, light bulbs, Popsicle sticks, toothbrushes and tiny pieces of plastic litter the ocean caught in what oceanographers call a gyre, an area that keeps the trash circulating with strong currents and winds.

This garbage patch is one of five in the world researchers have discovered. The main pollutant is plastic, due to its durability and prevalence in developed countries.

The toxins contained in these bits of plastic are often absorbed by fish that feed on plankton and accidentally swallow the plastic confetti. Eventually the toxins may end up in the larger fish that eat the smaller, toxin-infested fish, the kind of fish humans may eventually consume.

Bonnie Monteleone, a University of North Carolina, Wilmington, graduate student researching a master's thesis on plastic accumulation in the ocean commented that she hoped to find a piece of the Pacific Ocean that was without pollutant.

"Just one area — just one," she said. "That's all I wanted to see. But everywhere had plastic."



Vatican accepts belief in extraterrestrials

The Catholic Church went on record Tuesday saying that belief in aliens is not a sin, calling them our "extraterrestrial brothers."

The reasoning of Rev. Jose Gabriel Funes, a Jesuit priest who directs the Vatican Observatory, is that any life beyond Earth is still part of God's creation. Insisting that God would not create life anywhere else in the vast universe, Funes said, would be "putting limits" on God's power.

Reconciling faith and science has been a mission of the Catholic Church under Pope Benedict XVI. Tuesday's announcement is a departure from the church's position against Galileo in the 17th Century. The famous astronomer was tried as a heretic for stating that Earth orbits the sun.

TheWindow



Photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison

Owl City's Adam Young performs during his concert in the Administration Building Monday, Nov. 2.

TheInsideVoice

Stuff Harding people like

by KYLIE AKINS
assistant news editor

Camping	Complaining about HU, but not leaving	Jim Bill McInteer
Slack lines		Macs
Chalk vandalism	Chicken nugget day in the Caf	Foreign accents
Leaving Searcy	The Bison	Hanging out in hallways
Side hugs	Kiss and Tackle	Festive rainboots
Talking about Nonie Darwish	90s Throwback	Loving/hating Texas

TheWatercooler

"This is a time of war. And yet these Americans did not die on a foreign field of battle."

— PRESIDENT OBAMA, speaking at a memorial for the 13 who were killed in the shooting in Ft. Hood Nov. 5

"If you're shocked that Britney was lip-synching at her concert and want your money back, life may continue to be hard for you."

— JOHN MAYER, singer, via Twitter, about a Spears concert in Australia where hundreds of people walked out, outraged

"Everyone who is present here today has a story to tell. They are part of freedom."

— ANGELA MERKEL, German Chancellor, at the 20th anniversary ceremony of the collapse of the Berlin Wall

#MyBison



Each issue, this section will feature the Bison editorial staff's favorite Tweets from users on campus. To submit yours, just add #MyBison to your Twitter updates.

Instead of mowing the leaves off the front lawn, I think they should make one big pile and set up a diving board above it. — Leahjf

It's a nagging realization, a faint itch, a thought barely clinging to the slick edge of consciousness: where is the Muffin Chapel? —blakemath

A random girl just yelled "I got engaged!" right outside the library... yep, it's just another ordinary day here at HU. —HUadambrown

Function fails Chi Sigs 'Cops and Robbers' busted by the Searcy Police

by **ABBY KELLETT**
student writer

They meet at a log cabin in the country on Wednesday nights to worship the Lord, carol to Harding's campus to spread Christmas cheer just before holiday break and are now the first club in Harding's history to have a function busted by the Searcy police.

The function, however, was nothing close to a rave or barn keg party. No drugs or alcohol were present at the function, and no one was scandalously clad with attire inappropriate for Harding.

The Chi Sigma Alpha function Nov. 7 contained two groups of attendees that made for the perfect storm of Searcy police: cops and robbers. The game and theme of the function, "Cops and Robbers," is a variation of the childhood pastime hide-and-seek.

The groups of robbers are given locations, and they must get to the location without being spotted in any way by the "cops." Some of the function's locations included the Reynolds building, First Security Stadium, Mi Pueblito, the pharmacy building, Kroger, McDonald's and the First Assembly of God.

Traditionally, once the game begins, the cops take off in their cars on the hunt for the robbers. If the robbers are spotted and identified, they have lost the game and their mission was a failure.

Walking into the science building with her date, Elisa Hester described the atmosphere as extremely energetic and intense.

"I thought, 'This is so exciting, and it's going to be a lot of fun' because we got to black out and hide in bushes," Hester said. "I was just ready to run."

The evening started innocently enough with a pizza party, queen entertainment based on the theme show "Cops" and even a devotional. It was when the games began

at about 9 p.m. that things took a turn.

"We're in the middle of the function, and I get the call from one of my fellow cops in the game," activities director Drew McCannless said. "The caller said that the actual Searcy police department had stopped one of our groups. So here I am, first time ever planning a function, and it's ruined."

The Chi Sig who called McCannless failed to mention that it was not one, but four cop cars that had not stopped but completely surrounded a group of "robbers" blocking them in and allowing no path or hope for escape.

"When I heard about it, I was scared for the group that was out there," Hester said. "But then I thought it was ironic because we were playing cops and robbers, and then the real cops became involved."

When being questioned, McCannless began to painstakingly relive every detail leading up to the fatal moment of the function's end.

"You know, it's really funny because the night before our function when we were getting final preparations done, the president of our club was in our room and said, 'Did it ever occur to anyone that the actual police might end our game?'" McCannless said. "Both me and the vice president were like 'No, I mean it might happen, but what are the chances?' Obviously, pretty high."

When hearing of a function being busted by the cops, most students do not automatically think of Chi Sigs.

"They don't ever get in trouble for anything," Hester said. "They're all the nice guys and the club that just isn't known for getting into trouble. They just don't. Especially by the cops."

Whether they are known for it or not, Chi Sigma Alpha is officially on record with the Searcy police department.

No charges were filed because the robbers had not committed any crimes.

by **SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH**
managing editor

As more opportunities arise to reuse and recycle, Harding anticipates adding a trial run of donation boxes to women's dorms for year-round use. Previously, donation boxes were only placed in dorms near the end of semesters, when students moved out.

"Items will be collected and donated to local in-need organizations," said Greg Tatera, director of Aramark's building services, who is heavily involved in Harding's environmental activities.

Donation boxes will be available by the end of this week or sometime next week. Requested donations include usable clothing, bedding and linens. Tatera said permanent donation boxes may be expanded to the men's dorms in the future, though both men and women will be able to donate items before Thanksgiving break. Boxes will be placed in the lobbies of men's and women's dorms, as well as some first-floor laundry rooms in applicable women's dorms.

Additionally, the number of recycling containers around campus has exploded, contributing to the university's notable recycling output even compared with last year. Since July 1, 2009, about 118,228 pounds (the equivalent weight of about 18 Hummers) of campus material has been recycled. In last year's entire fiscal year, that total was 154,539 pounds.

Recycling bins are progressively being established in classrooms. Eventually, 265 bins will collectively fill classrooms across campus. Buildings that are completely filled with classroom recycling bins are already seeing a sharp decrease in the amount

of trash collected.

"There has been a 50 percent increase in [classroom] recycling," Tatera said. "The percentage of trash has decreased significantly."

To date, 577 public-use recycling containers are spread through Harding's hallways, common areas, computer labs and workrooms. Five outdoor recycling containers were added within the past two weeks. Bins have been placed in the cafeteria and student center to collect Green Thread take-out containers, a number of which have not been returned after use.

A trial run of dorm room recycling may occur in spring, which entails students placing their recyclables in containers or bags located in their rooms.

"We're not going to mandate it," Tatera said. "I'd rather pinpoint students who really want to recycle."

Harding's environmental actions may soon be reported on the university's Web site. The online eco-information will debut in roughly a month. Until then, students can offer suggestions to improve Harding's carbon footprint in the comments section of Pipeline. Tatera noted that students' previous comments sparked more bike racks and the introduction of outdoor recycling bins.

To increase recycling awareness, Harding Academy fifth-grade students recently participated in a poster-drawing contest with a green theme. The winning posters will be distributed across campus.

Sunday, Nov. 15, is recognized as America Recycles Day, a nationwide initiative by Keep America Beautiful and National Recycling Coalition. Because this day coincides with Thanksgiving break preparations, Tatera encourages

students to be especially mindful of how they treat the environment when cleaning their rooms before leaving for the holiday.

"The timing is going to be great," Tatera said.

As such, Tatera encourages students to do as many of the following before leaving town:

- Turn off lights
- Turn off or unplug alarm clocks, radios and televisions
- Turn off power to laptops, monitors and printers
- Unplug chargers and unused power strips
- Ensure that windows are closed
- Report broken windows, doors, water leaks and running toilets
- Adjust thermostat to 68 degrees in applicable dorms
- Remove trash; recycle as many items as possible

Considering the magnitude of Harding's expanding green actions, the Environmental Stewardship Committee's goal of recycling 250,000 pounds within this fiscal year seems entirely feasible.

Mark on your calendars:

America Recycles Day
Sunday, Nov. 15

'Scrooge' cast gifts community

by **BLAKE MATHEWS**
editor-in-chief

Though the alumni had long since gone home and the queen had hung up her dress, it was still Homecoming on the Benson stage Monday night as the cast and crew of "Scrooge" put on a free encore performance of the musical.

The Homecoming musical traditionally has two performances during Homecoming weekend and a children's matinee in the middle of the week. However, with the Christian College Presidents Conference coming to Harding Nov. 9, President David Burks said he saw an opportunity to share the acclaimed performance with his presidential peers. After the end of the first show Oct. 30, Burks went backstage and asked the cast and crew to give an encore performance more than a week after the end of Homecoming.

The decision was ultimately up to musical director Robin Miller, who said he watched the performers, musicians and technicians "start to jump up and down a little bit" as Burks made his proposal. Miller agreed and signed the cast and crew on for one more performance.

"When you do the kind of work that we do and you only get two full run-throughs of the show with an audience, it almost feels

anticlimactic," he said.

Although the Friday and Saturday shows drew thousands of people to the Benson auditorium, Miller said two nights was hardly enough time for the actors to get comfortable in front of an audience.

"The way we have been, it's been: 'Hi, welcome to opening night.' Next night: 'Hi, welcome to closing night,'" he said.

Alex Ritchie, who played the title role of Scrooge, joined several cast members in echoing Miller's sentiment. The road to opening night can seem long and arduous, Ritchie said, with hours of each week invested in rehearsals, "but it's never long enough when the show actually arrives."

Ensemble member Robert Yates said it was an "honor" to be asked for an encore, though he had hoped to start catching up on class work once Homecoming weekend had passed. Other cast members had to abandon or postpone their post-musical plans, though Miller said the conflicts were sufficiently resolved.

With the new performance scheduled, the Saturday show was no longer the final show. This fact "kind of threw off the energy," Yates said, adding that he had to mentally "re-engage" in order to stay focused after Burks' announcement.

The cast and crew only rehearsed twice between the end of Homecoming week and Monday night, a concession from Miller that gave the students some much-needed down time. But Ritchie said he could not fully relax knowing that he would have to become Scrooge again.

"There was this suspended kind of tension in my mind," he said. Staying healthy and not forgetting his lines were still his responsibilities. Monday night's performance drew a crowd big enough to pack the floor and balcony of the Benson. Ensemble member Laura Jean Jenkins said the crowd was especially responsive and encouraged her to act out, despite the fact that it was a "draining" Monday night.

"The crowd makes the show every time," Jenkins said. "If your crowd is not giving any energy, you will lose energy."

Jenkins said the crowd's unique energy likely came from the free admission to the performance. The makeup of the audience was also different, as the encore had been advertised over the radio and through newspapers across White County. Burks said he wanted the free show, originally planned for the university presidents, to be a "Christmas gift to the community."

The performance was not

free for Harding, however, as expenses are incurred every time the show is run. Burks said he had planned for the losses, which were minimal since the most costly part of the production, the stage, was already set up. He even made a financial contribution towards the Scrooge cast party to thank them for the encore.

No more encores will be requested this year, Burks said. The cast of "Scrooge" now has a different task, what Ritchie called the "gradual regaining of life without the musical." Jenkins said that homework, friendships and her position as president of Chi Kappa Rho all needed to be tended to. But the extra performance has given her a sense of "closure." Jenkins said she had wondered what it would be like to do a third show, and now she knows.

"Most years it's just been this 'drop you where we picked you up' sort of thing," Ritchie said. The days of rest before the encore allowed him to avoid the abrupt transition and ease back into "life without the musical."

For the build crew, who assembled the sets, the transition to post-musical life has never been abrupt. Their job will continue until the set pieces are disassembled and the Benson stage is finally back to normal.

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INFORMATION

The Bison is a campus newspaper, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community.

It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length.

Signed columns appearing in The Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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An Unsettling Tribute

KARA TOBEY

Guest Space

Someone has already sacrificed his life for me, and if anyone needs to die beyond that, I volunteer.

Most of all, I was deeply shaken by the presence of guns in chapel. I find this symbol entirely incompatible with Christianity. In conjunction with the American flag and military, guns are a symbol of destruction, domination and killing. As Christians, our primary symbol is to be the exact opposite: one of defeat, submission and being killed, namely the cross. But what about our safety, our way of life? What if they come to kill us or take over our country? To this I say that Jesus never promised us protection or the preservation of our ways. I am doing my best to model my life after a man who got himself killed, and I do not pretend that this decision is sane or safe in any way. But I believe that it is the best way. I understand that in laying down my life (see 1 John 3) I might actually have to lay down my life. I accept.

The marriage of Christianity and nationalism disturbs me. What of

the Christians around the world who are not Americans? Are they directed by God to be thus loyal to their own governments and flags? What if they live in countries we are at war with?

At one point, Dr. Matlock showed us a picture of himself standing next to a rocket launcher, a reflection of his time serving in the Navy. He expressed to us that this picture made him very uncomfortable because at the time it was taken, he was not a believer and if he had died at that point, he would not have gone to heaven. If we follow this line of reasoning, how can we possibly condone killing people from other countries who are almost assuredly not Christians in the interest of protecting ourselves and our lives? According to Dr. Matlock's reasoning, isn't there more on the line for our enemies than for us? I would like to ask what exactly Jesus meant when he instructed us to love our enemies. And in my conscience I cannot find a way to believe that loving our enemies has anything to do with their destruction.

KARA TOBEY is a guest contributor for The Bison. She may be contacted at karatobey1@harding.edu

I have to confess that I was very unsettled by chapel last Wednesday. Namely our tribute to Veteran's Day. I understand that the role of the military and its relationship to Christianity is not a simple issue, and I mean no disrespect with this article. I want in no way to write off or dishonor anyone who has knowingly put their life in jeopardy as I offer my sentiments on the issue.

That said, some of the language used in chapel deeply concerned me. First, I do not pledge my allegiance to a flag, nor do I serve a country. I am loyal to God alone, and when his way conflicts with that of the government, he is the one I will follow. It is frightening to me to stand in a room full of Christians, listening to them loudly recite their commitment to a flag, an inanimate symbol of government and geography, when moments before perhaps half the audience was participating in those songs that indicate our allegiance to the Creator of this world.

Additionally, it was mentioned that the men and women serving in our armed forces are sacrificing their lives for each other and for us. That is a very noble idea. However, that has already been taken care of.

Muslims Fighting Stereotype

BETH CANTRELL

Guest Space

With Veteran's Day just two days past, it is expected that we should have military on the mind. Our thoughts go to friends and family serving in the states and overseas and to those who have fallen in past battles. Sadly, our minds go also to Killeen, TX. Killeen is home to Fort Hood Military Base and the site of the Nov. 5 tragedy, in which American soldiers were cut down on home soil by one of their own.

As the country mourns, sympathetic tears are shed for the victims and their families. Prayers for the dead and the wounded are lifted. Friends, neighbors and even strangers are reaching out to do what they can to help the ones affected by this attack. These are common reactions in the wake of tragedy and lift our hearts with hope of healing in the future, but in the years following Sept. 11, 2001, we see also a new response to this particular kind of tragedy. We see fear, misdirected blame and open hate.

Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, the gunman responsible for killing 13 and wounding dozens of others, is a Muslim. Outcries immediately spread by both media and word of mouth that this must have been a planned terrorist attack. In an attempt to discourage swift and unjust backlash against the

Muslim community, much media coverage rebutted the speculations of terrorism, assuring the public that the shooting was simply the psychological snap of a disturbed and lonely man. Whether this atrocity can be attributed to a well organized terrorist group or whether these were indeed the actions of a lone gunman is not for me to presume. My current fear is for the Muslim community at large and for the Muslim soldiers who are serving our country. I fear that they are now in danger of suffering the pain of prejudice and could be forced to endure consequences of a crime they did not commit.

There are more than 3,500 Muslims serving in the armed forces today. They are serving alongside men and women of all races and religions and should benefit from the same amount of respect given to any of these other soldiers. It cannot be an easy thing to fight a war focused against people of your own religion, and it is awful to think that some of these brave men and women may now have to fight terror tactics while fighting accusations of being a terrorist themselves.

My heart goes out to the victims of this atrocity. My sympathy goes out to the family members who must now grieve the loss of a loved one. My prayers lie with Fort Hood and the entire military as it heals from this attack, but my plea goes out to you.

Do not hold a community responsible for the actions of one. Do not fan the flames of hate that led to this tragedy. But perhaps most important of all, do not stay silent. It is important not only to keep your own mind from putting the actions of one on an innocent group of people, but you must also stand up for what is right when others choose the path of hate over healing.

Do not tolerate the injustice of prejudice when you see or hear it. This is not a matter of Christianity interacting with Islam or any other religion or lack thereof. It is as simple as standing up for the rights of a person, a soldier or an American.

The horror of the attack at Fort Hood is great, and it will take time for the country and military to heal, though we will never forget. I ask that you do not hinder but find a way to help this process.

BETH CANTRELL is a guest contributor for The Bison. She may be contacted at bethcantrell@gmail.com

Redefining Beauty

DANIEL MORRISSEY

Guest Space

This definition is not limited to aesthetics, which is why it appeals to me. This definition is more holistic.

Again, I am certain there are many wonderful "holistic beauty products" that you can have sent to your doorstep for the low price of \$39.99 (plus \$4.99 shipping and handling), and I am certain that you can find some that will help you look, smell and feel great—all without harming mother nature. But is that really holistic? Is that really even beautiful? Is it a little harsh for me to call those holistic aesthetic products rather than holistic beauty products? I think not.

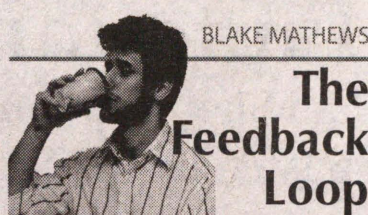
As a society, we are continually force-fed bits and pieces of what makes a person beautiful and made to believe that this one bit or this one piece is the cure-all, the end-all, be-all. You can become the guy with the great smile and the shiny shoes or the girl with the fabulous dress and the immaculate hairdo. And it all sounds so nice, so perfect, so ideal, and if you hear this message enough, it starts to sound believable.

But it is nothing but a lie.

Real beauty is not what you see on TV or on the big screen. I am not saying that there is anything wrong with being physically attracted to someone. I am not saying there is anything wrong with the desire to be physically attractive. I am saying that when these desires become the focus of our relationships, we are missing out.

Prophecy about Jesus, Isaiah states that "he had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him." Yet because of what he did, Jesus is the most holistically beautiful person to walk this earth. As a healer, a teacher, a leader and ultimately as our Savior, he sets the standard for what holistic beauty means. This is what we should be looking for in our relationships with one another, in our family, in our friends and in our romance. The old adage is that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." Take that one step further and say that beauty is found only in the heart, mind and soul of a person.

DANIEL MORRISSEY is a guest contributor for The Bison. He may be contacted at dmorris@harding.edu



BLAKE MATHEWS

The Feedback Loop

The Art of Plastic War

Searcy is not a city known for its guerrilla works of art. It's known for having extremely high church density – and for being the only place where I ever thought to use the phrase "church density." It was once known for having three McDonald's restaurants within five minutes of each other. Though it is a college town, Searcy's walls and streets are not known as the canvases of impossibly creative college artists.

As the de facto nucleus of this town, Harding is not known for its untamed artistic spirit either. But, I recently discovered, we may be making strides towards unfettered, occasionally ridiculous expression.

Someone is leaving plastic army men all over campus.

It started with one dark green little soldier, crawling on his belly across the carpet of my apartment. Would I believe that my roommates had bought buckets of them and were spending their afternoons reenacting famous historical battles on our dining room table? Easily. But this was one army man separated from his bucket platoon. I asked around the room and no one claimed it.

I had completely forgotten about the completely forgettable event until someone came to me saying he had a story idea for The Bison. By the way, my friends, I love it when you do that. He pulled out his phone and began to show me pictures of little green army men in strange places all over campus. There was a little radio guy at the bottom of the Heritage lobby's winding staircase. Two mini GIs were choked up on their plastic rifles inside a glass display case in the Pryor-England building. One of the white Es on the side of the Stephens Art Center was a nest for a lone machine gunner.

I would have dismissed it as a juvenile prank, but that one little man crawling on his green plastic belly across my carpet brought it too close to home. Something organized, subversive and too wacky to be true was afoot.

Most of the places where army men were sighted had been disturbed, my contact said, but the lookout up in the Art Center E was supposedly still at his post. I searched every vowel on the side of that building and found nothing.

By that point I suspected the whole farce was far less organized than previously thought, not deliberate enough to be considered art. But it was possible that the wind or a bird or plastic enemy fire could have knocked him out of his letter, so I checked the ground before heading back inside.

And there he was, buried up to his neck in soil under the shade of a shrub. Just finding one of the little soldiers made the whole thing believable. There had to be more out there, more of this experimental art form that challenged viewers to expand their imaginations and believe in an invading miniature plastic army. It was brilliant.

That's one theory, of course. I'm now one plastic machine gunner closer to the truth, but what really ties these army men together could be any number of things:

- .Experimental art form
- .Capstone project for psychology majors
- .Naughty, naughty children
- .Promotional campaign for new college bible study ("Soldiers of Christ, Arise")
- .Public Safety's new surveillance system
- .Squirrels got into a bucket of plastic army men
- .Military recruitment tool
- .College Republicans recruitment tool
- .First wave of actual invasion by plastic army

BLAKE MATHEWS serves as the editor-in-chief for the 2009-2010 Bison. He may be contacted at bmathews@harding.edu.



SAM HOLSCHBACH

Green Guru

An Invitation To Be Green

Last week I received the first proof of my wedding invitations from Earthly Affairs, found at www.earthlyaffair.com. To put it plainly, I'm beyond elated with it. Simple yet elegant, the invitations, which depict a pair of bright blue birds, will aptly reflect the appreciation my fiancé Dan and I have for our beloved avifauna.

More than that, the invitations reflect our commitment to the environment, as all invitation collections on this Web site are created "with 100% recycled paper, earth-friendly printing methods, an eco equipped studio, and carbon free shipping." If that seems like an environmental step above many other invitation vendors, Earthly Affairs makes a giant leap for greenkind in its all-around company ethics:

- Offsetting CO2 emissions resulting from shipments and business through carbonfund.org.
- Donating a portion of profits to environmental projects
- From paper to ink cartridges and even to their studio furniture, Earthly Affairs recycles or reuses everything they can
- Implementing energy saving practices, such as installing compact fluorescent light bulbs, turning off all equipment and lights when not in use, saving paper by utilizing electronic documents and purchasing energy-star rated electronics
- Composting and/or recycling leftover paper scraps
- Reusing shipping supplies or materials

The idea for this company's eco-friendly premise originated when the founder, Jennifer Stambolsky, was planning her own wedding and noticed a void in invitations that were both stylish and green, according to the Earthly Affairs Web site. I'm so thankful she took the initiative to design enchanting invitations that are earth-friendly through-and-through.

If you're an eco-bride and don't see something that piques your fancy on Earthly Affairs' site, a number of other companies offer invitations made from recycled paper. Here's a sampling of my favorites:

- www.oblationpapers.com/wedding (notice the cute nest invites!)
- <http://www.greenfieldpaper.com/index.cfm> (these can be embedded with seeds and planted in guests' gardens)
- <http://www.minted.com/eco-friendly> (all sorts of chic designs)
- <http://www.hellolucky.com/wedding-invitations.html> (fun, modern motifs)

If you fall in love with a design that can't be printed on recycled paper, you can minimize your environmental impact in other ways. For one, you can post your directions and accommodations for guests on a wedding Web site. This way, you won't have to print separate sheets for hotel information, maps, directions, etc. for guests who may not necessarily need them. You can also avoid "extras" like a thin sheet of blank tissue paper over the text or a purposeless extra envelope that is sometimes enclosed in invites (it had purpose in the Victorian era). Remember: Whatever you spare in invitation features, you gain in spare money.

Nowadays you can even send save-the-dates via e-mail — a Google search will yield prospects like www.theknot.com (in conjunction with a Knot wedding Web site) or even video save-the-date inspiration. The sky's the limit with how creative and eco-friendly you desire to be — I hope you'll aim high!

SAMANTHA HOLSCHBACH serves as the managing editor for the 2009-2010 Bison. She may be contacted at sholschb@harding.edu.



By CHRIS BINGHAM

THE QUOTE

"We cannot put limits on the creative freedom of God."

—FATHER JOSE FUNES,

a Jesuit astronomer at the Vatican Observatory, on the possibility of life beyond Earth at the Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences conference

Gems Among The Wolves

We all have the potential to be brilliant, beautiful leaders. We all have the potential to shine, to be the best version of ourselves. Disturbingly, a large percentage of us do not rise to the occasion and continue to make the same bad choices. There is nothing more discouraging than when those around us conform in weakness and accept the ways of the world.

At this point in our lives, we can no longer make exceptions for hatred, self-centeredness and slandering. No longer should we surround ourselves with those who bring false hope, those who lie and cheat their way through life or those who desire to cut others down only to build themselves up. Now is the time that we remove such garbage from our lives unless we plan on being miserable.

In my time here at Harding, I've made many different friends, most of whom I still know, but we parted ways with time. I also had relationships that came and went, each more eye-opening than the other. I discovered what it meant to be loyal, trustworthy and honest even in the hardest of times. That is not to say I did not slip up along the way, but I've made sure to learn from my own mistakes as well as those of others. All in all, I am no longer naïve about people, different personality types and the baggage attached with many relationships.

Finding those true friends or "gems" as I like to call them, is not effortless; in fact, I believe our search for these "gems" is a



MARYCAITLIN TANKSLEY

Guest Space

life-long process. On the other hand, I whole heartedly believe true friends are essential to find and keep in our lives. In many cases, we have to sort through and discard many "rotten apples" to obtain those worth keeping. I know so many can relate, whether in regards to a so-called "best" friend or beloved significant other, someone we trust. We will discover someone for who they truly are in time. The truth always makes its way to the surface.

Identifying someone's true colors can be very refreshing and enlightening, or it can be very upsetting and life-changing. Either way, the discovery of someone's heart can change us. We should strive to surround ourselves with those who uplift us and bring joy to our lives. For some, we choose to preserve meaningless relationships that only bring us down. If this is ever the situation, removing yourself is essential for your soul! Otherwise, you will reap the negative effects of those one-sided, heartless relationships.

My mom always reminds me that "a spade is a spade." Often, we try to defend someone's true intentions, make excuses for them or even blame ourselves. Being hateful is just that! Lying is lying, and no one is to blame except for the one doing so. Manipulation and narcissism should never be down played.

One phrase I live by is, "It is what it is," meaning it is reality, and trying to beat around the bush or sugarcoat a situation is not the answer. If you find yourself always making excuses for a friend, significant other or a loved one, stop! A spade is a spade, and we cannot change one's true intentions.

As heart-wrenching as it can be coming to terms with and distinguishing a person's true self, I have found it to be a blessing. In times like these, we can gain knowledge and wisdom. We discover the negative influences in our lives, and we always discover the "gems." When we remove the negative in our lives, we are spared from a continuous roller coaster of drama and devastating betrayal. In times like these, we are given the chance to stand up for what is right, rather than settle for a false sense of security, friendship and love.

Paul states in Philippians 3:19, "Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach and their glory is their shame. Their mind is on earthly things." I quote this Scripture because Paul conveys the truth in such a bold manner. Not once does he try to sugarcoat the ways of man, and he points out the "wolves" in their truest form.

There are many "wolves" among us in the world and on this campus. I've come face to face with many wolves among the sheep as many of us have; it is a part of life that cannot be avoided. The "Harding Bubble" does not exist, nor will it ever. I've seen evil in its ripest form in my dorms, classes and in

many of my former-trusted friendships. Yes, we all sin. Yes, we all make mistakes, but there are those among us who go above and beyond to hurt people and find satisfaction in doing so. If this kind of sick, disgusting behavior is in your life, run from it and never look back. You cannot change someone, especially when that person is unwilling to change. Why continue to get caught up with those who wreak havoc in your life and pull you away from your spiritual happiness? As Christians, we will experience this problem enough, especially when leaving this school. If you have a spine, you will do what is right and stop encouraging people to continue behaving this way.

Because of sin, there is pain — something we are all well aware of. Because there is evil, we will suffer on this earth. Betrayal will occur, lies will be uttered, friendships and love will fall between your fingers like sand. Now is the time to ask yourself what you believe in and you want in life. Now is the time to seek happiness as Paul did and boldly stand against evil. Find those "gems" and count your blessings. If you've been hurt or betrayed, hold your head up high; you are only stronger because of it. Most importantly, never back down from the devil, and always look to God because he is unfailing and the one Truth.

MARYCAITLIN TANKSLEY is a guest contributor for The Bison and may be contacted at mtanksle@harding.edu.

The Life of a Squirrel

JENNIE BOHMIER

Guest Space

college life. All he had to do was dig around for nuts all day, hopping from one tree to another. To say the least, at that moment I found myself wishing that I was a squirrel. That squirrel did not realize how easy he had it!

But then I thought about it some more. Have you ever seen a squirrel relaxing beneath a tree? For the most part, when a squirrel sees you he either freezes in his place staring at you nervously through beady eyes, or he scampers away as fast as he can. Squirrels never sit still. They are always running here to there. Squirrels spend the majority of their time hunting for nuts, which are then buried and consequently forgotten by the squirrel or are stolen by a watchful bird. Squirrels are constantly having to chew on

things to keep their teeth down and are oftentimes the predator of a phone line or two.

Harding squirrels have it even tougher as they must always be on the look out for wandering students, bicycles, golf carts, dogs and the occasional utility vehicle that is randomly parked in the middle of the Quad.

The more I thought about it, the more I realized that a squirrel's life is probably just as hectic for him as college can sometimes be for me. But does the squirrel worry about this? I could be wrong, but I don't think he loses sleep fretting that he will not find food for the next day. I don't even think that he is fazed when he can't remember where he buried that acorn. He just busily moves on, knowing in faith that he will be provided for.

Now, if a squirrel can have a mindset like that, why can I not? We humans, who are in direct communication with God, children after his own heart, have more

reasons to believe that our well-being will be provided for than any squirrel.

Consider this verse: "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" (Matt. 6:26-27). God knows what you need and is ready to bless those who trust in Him. He provides everyday for the squirrels. He has promised to provide for you.

So I encourage you, when the burdens of college life are crashing down around you, and you don't know how you'll make it to tomorrow, take a moment and consider the squirrels. God cares for them, and he most definitely cares for you!

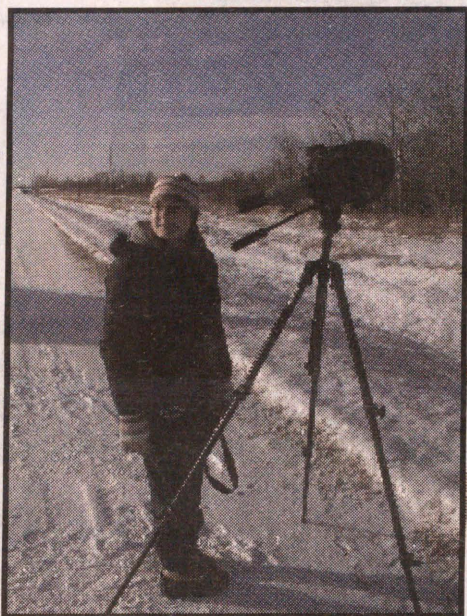
JENNIE BOHMIER is a guest contributor for The Bison and can be contacted at jbohmier@harding.edu.

Feast and Fellowship:

Why Harding students can't get enough of Thanksgiving traditions

With Thanksgiving Break just two weeks away, "feast and fellowship," or just a break from homework, is on the mind of almost every Harding student.

Check out these students' Thanksgiving stories and traditions....



SAM HOLSCHBACH
Senior Print Journalism Major
Plymouth, Wis.

"In my teens, Thanksgiving morning entailed awakening before dawn, bundling up in as many layers as possible and driving to my Uncle Gary's home in Manitowoc County, Wis., for a deer hunting drive. Along with my cousins and uncles, I would line up in front of a frost-covered field and march across with my shotgun, hoping a massive buck would intercept my path. No such buck ever appeared, but at times a single step would cause an unseen pheasant to seemingly explode from the grass, startling me to the core. Those unexpected thrills gave me all the excitement I needed for a fine Thanksgiving day, regardless of whether venison filled my freezer or not."



REBECCA MILLER
Junior Accounting Major
Dripping Springs, Texas

"In my family the meaning of Thanksgiving is more than just one. It is a day of thanks to God for all the blessings he has given us, a day to celebrate our country and most importantly a day of sharing good food and spending time with my family. As November rolls around my thoughts start to drift towards turkey with dressing, cranberry sauce and sweet potato casserole. Of course no Thanksgiving would be complete without pumpkin pie topped off with whip cream.

Since my parents' families do not live close to each other, we switch off with who we celebrate with. This year we will celebrate with my mom's family. Since there are 20-30 of us at Thanksgiving lunch, we go more potluck style. Of course there is the traditional turkey, but otherwise everyone just brings a dish of their favorite food. Lunch is spent laughing, telling stories, catching up and reminiscing about times past.

Of course no family event is ever complete unless it is thoroughly documented. If you are dating someone from my family, you automatically get drafted to become the family photographer. One camera is never enough either. Everyone has to have a copy.

From there everyone splits off into different activities. My personal favorite thing to do on Thanksgiving afternoon is go to the movies. The evening is spent looking through the sales paper and planning out which stores to tackle first on Black Friday."



SARAH KYLE
Junior Print Journalism Major
Fort Collins, Colo.

"My family is huge into holiday traditions and family 'rules' regarding them. For example, we are not allowed to sing Christmas songs or even reference any decorations as 'Christmas' decorations until after we have all finished Thanksgiving dinner. On Thanksgiving Day, I get up and watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade with my mom while we cook. At Thanksgiving dinner, we all share what we are thankful for and then dig into food that not even a small army could entirely consume. After we're all about to pass out, I (being the youngest) pick out the first Christmas CD of the season, and decorating begins. After we all get tired of decorating, we go to the movies and officially declare it to be the Christmas season."



BRETT JONES
Senior Mathematics and Computer Science Major
Kansas City, Mo.

"Every Thanksgiving, as many of my aunts, uncles and cousins as can make the trip descend upon Grandma and Grandpa's house to enjoy the three F's of Thanksgiving: Family, Fellowship and Food. As a kid, I assumed that our extended family was just tight-knit and close, but as an adult I now realize that it probably had more to do with Grandma's cooking than anything.

To say that Grandma is a 'good cook' would be at best an understatement. Although I doubt her humility would ever allow her to accept such an accolade, Grandma's skill in the kitchen can only be described as culinary genius. I have long suspected several of my cousins' spouses of marrying into the family for the sole purpose of gaining access to Grandma's cooking. Some grandmas are famous for one, maybe two dishes. Grandma is famous for a good dozen. Noodles and gravy, cinnamon rolls, turkey, ham, green beans fresh from Grandpa's garden, buttery rolls, Kentucky derby pie, chocolate éclairs... just a few of the delicacies that make an annual appearance at the Jones Family Thanksgiving Feast.

Part of the magic of the Thanksgiving meal is that it always occurs a little later than the usual lunch time. This combined with the intentionally light or omitted Thanksgiving breakfast ensures that all parties are prepared to fully take advantage of the feast set before them. As the last preparations are being made, the word is passed throughout the house that the food is almost ready. The men (who have by this point sequestered themselves in the living room with the TV watching football) lick their lips in anticipation as they rise from their seats and move into the kitchen. The kids come running up the stairs from the basement where they have been creating a special kind of organized chaos known as 'playing.' Everyone gathers around the kitchen table and grows silent as we wait for Grandpa to assign one of the male family members the distinct honor and privilege of saying the blessing. After the prayer, a highly complicated and rather chaotic procedure begins, the result of which is that everyone has a plate full of the best home-cooked food the Mid-West has to offer.

And so the feast begins. Plate follows plate, helping follows helping, as the Joneses consume enough food to allow us all to hibernate through the harshest of winters. Once everyone has thoroughly gorged themselves, those with enough energy to leave the table make their way to the nearest couch or bed and indulge in sweet Tryptophan-induced lethargy. One by one, families make their way back home, rising the next day and wondering whether it was all just a dream. The remaining 364 days of the year are spent solely in anticipation of the Thanksgiving meal to come."



KIM KOKERNOT
Junior Education Major
San Antonio, Texas

"Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. Even though I'm almost 21, I still sit at the kids' table for Thanksgiving dinner. While some might see it as degrading, I get to avoid awkward family conversations about my future and current love life. I eat delicious food, don't have to employ proper etiquette and hang out with my niece and nephew, the two people I am the most thankful for."

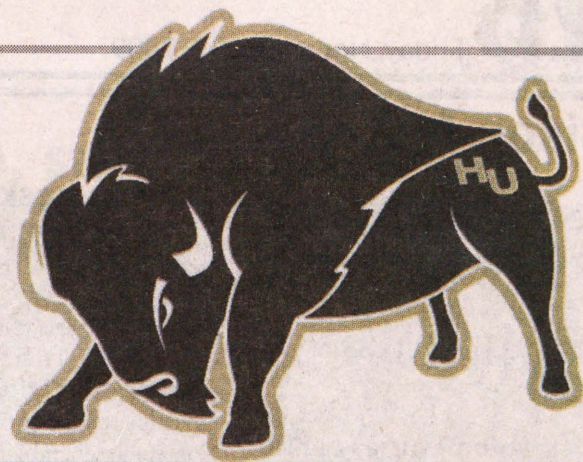
So as you embark on your own Thanksgiving traditions, enjoy a week of "feast and fellowship."

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

SECTION B

Bison

the



November 13, 2009

Lady Bisons set to host GSC tourney

by KATE KUWITZKY
student writer

The Lady Bison Volleyball team opens Gulf South Conference tournament play this Friday against Valdosta State in the Rhodes Field House.

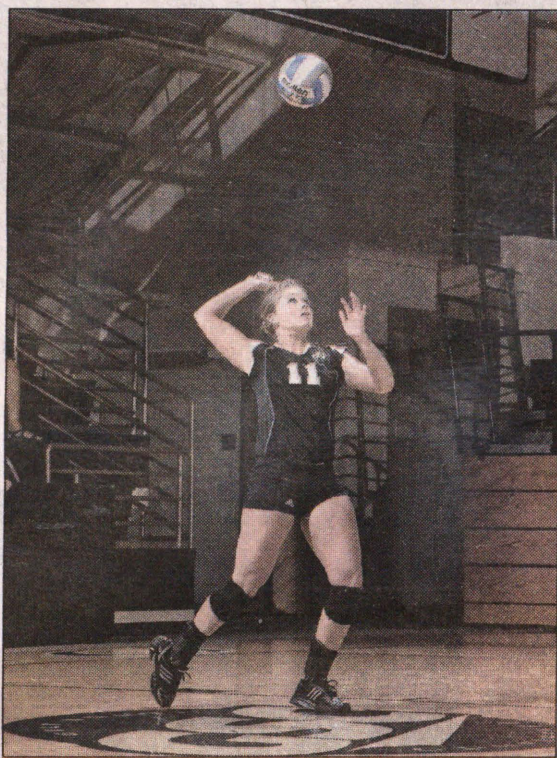
Harding comes in as the top seed after posting an 11-1 conference record this season. Valdosta State comes into tournament play with a 4-6 conference record. In their only meeting of the regular season the Lady Bisons defeated Valdosta State 3-2. Senior Sarah Phipps led Harding with 17 kills and nine digs in the match.

The Lady Bisons start the tournament with high aspirations.

"Our capabilities are endless," head coach Keith Giboney said. "There's been moments when we show our potential. Outside the valleys, of the season we've done a great job to play at this level. I'm proud of where we've come."

If the regular season is any indication, the Lady Bisons have plenty of star power to make a run at being conference champions.

Last Wednesday senior Manuela Nesheva was named Gulf South Conference West Division Player



Senior Sarah Phipps has helped lead the Lady Bisons to the number one seed in the West Division and a 27-6 record this season. The Lady Bisons will host the GSC Tournament Friday and Saturday.

of the Year for the second time. Nesheva is the first Harding player and the fourth GSC player to earn player of the year honors multiple

times. She was also named to the West Division All-GSC team. Nesheva averaged 4.43 kills per set, second in the GSC and fifth

in NCAA Division II. She also became the all-time leader in kills for Harding this year.

Phipps and junior Emily Tate



Photos by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison

were also named to the West Division All-GSC team. Tate was a defensive leader this season, averaging 4.74 digs per set. She also led the conference in service aces per set, averaging 0.51.

Phipps was second on the team in kills per set with an average of 2.31. Ten times this season she had more than 10 digs and 10 kills in a match. Besides the obvious statistical success, Phipps plays a big role for the Lady Bisons.

"She's very much a leader, a quiet competitor," Giboney said. "She has very high expectations for herself and is an integral part of what we do on the court both offensively and defensively."

Phipps is a senior and will end her Lady Bison career this weekend as Harding hosts the GSC Tournament. Phipps has improved each year she's been here and did not disappoint in her final season.

"It took a lot to get where she is, but she's peaked this year and helped us to have the kind of year we've had," Giboney said.

The Lady Bisons look to cap off their impressive season with a strong showing at the conference tournament.



Photo by CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Running back Dominic Blood has been featured in the Bisons' new "heavy" formation. The new offensive formation features 10 linemen and one running back.

Bisons implement new football schemes

by KATE KUWITZKY
student writer

The Bison football team broke the mold in more ways than one this season. From formations to taking cues from the No. 4 team in the country, the Bisons got creative, and it paid off on the field.

The Bisons used a formation called "heavy" to create some versatility in their running game. Because the team is primarily a spread offense, there are not many tight ends or fullbacks available in short yardage situations. In situations like these the team decided to use defensive linemen as blocking backs, since they are big, strong and quick. The formation consisted of 7 offensive linemen, 3 defensive linemen lined up as blocking backs and Dominic Blood as the running back to carry the ball.

The unconventional set-up led to the game-winning score

in the Homecoming game against Henderson State.

Harding also increased the use of the wildcat formation. The wildcat has been a part of the Bison offense the last several seasons. Last season it was primarily used in red zone situations, but this year it was used more frequently due to injuries at receiver and quarterback. Coach Ronnie Huckleba also thought having Zac Ross play out of the wildcat formation was an asset.

The creative play sets seemed to have a big impact on game outcomes.

"I think it helped us in several of our wins and helped us compete against Valdosta State," Huckleba said.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Bisons looked to the No. 4-ranked TCU Horned Frogs for some inspiration.

"They have been one of the top defenses in the country for several years and are on

the cutting edge of modern defensive thought," Huckleba said. "Their head coach, Gary Patterson, is considered one of the top defensive minds in the country."

The Harding coaching staff liked the ability to get the safeties involved in supporting the run game and the ease of adjustment to all formations the TCU defense had, so they made the decision to install the same defense here and have been happy with the results.

"We are very pleased with it," Huckleba said. "We will continue to use it and add to it as our players become more comfortable with the schemes."

The Bison football team concluded the 2009 season this past Saturday with a 5-6 record overall, but the use of unexpected formations and implementation of a strong defensive scheme will be helpful in seasons to come.

San Francisco now haunted by Michael Crabtree curse

CHRIS O'DELL

The Leadoff



A curse is something many sports enthusiasts claim exists in our very own American pastimes. Nearly everyone has heard of the "Mad-Den Curse." Or how about the "Curse of Bobby Layne"?

The former Lions quarterback led Detroit to three NFL championships in 1952, 1953 and 1957. However, despite this success, the Lions thought he was past his prime and traded Layne to the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1958. As Layne left, he reportedly "cursed" Detroit and declared the franchise would not win for the next 50 years.

Over those 50 years, the Lions have had the worst winning percentage of any team in the NFL. Then on the 50th anniversary of the trade, the "Curse of Bobby Layne" went

to a whole new level when the Lions became the first NFL team to finish a season 0-16.

Like the "Curse of the Bambino" in Red Sox nation or the "Curse of the Billy Goat" in Chicago, there is now becoming a curse in San Francisco that might trump any curse before it.

That is the "Curse of Michael Crabtree."

As reported in one of my columns earlier this semester, the former Texas Tech star receiver became one of the longest holdouts in league history this season. Crabtree was selected 10th overall in the NFL draft but said he deserved top-five money. The former Red Raider also said he was entitled to becoming the highest-paid wide receiver in the draft, despite being the second player taken at his position.

After an extremely long holdout, Crabtree and the 49ers finally worked out a contract in early October. At the time of the contract signing, the 49ers had played a fourth of the sea-

son without Crabtree.

In those four games San Francisco was an impressive 3-1, with its only loss coming to powerhouse Minnesota on the final snap of the game. If not for a heavenly pass by Brett Favre to end the game, the 49ers would have been sitting pretty at 4-0 without the services of one Michael Crabtree.

Since signing Crabtree, the 49ers have lost four consecutive games to drop to 3-5. The team even reached a season low last week by rolling over at home against the 1-6 Tennessee Titans.

49ers head coach Mike Singletary has talked about a team-first attitude since arriving in San Francisco. The hard-nosed coach had the entire team buying into the notion that no one player is bigger than the team.

However, someone forgot to tell Michael Crabtree and the 49ers' management about Singletary's team philosophy. The player whom some labeled as a "diva" before last year's draft toyed with his new team

and still received a \$17 million guarantee as his reward.

San Francisco management's cave-in for the me-first Crabtree might have triggered an instant losing streak as well as a "Michael Crabtree Curse" in the bay area. By giving in to the prima donna wide receiver, the franchise showed that some players can be bigger than the team. The 49ers showed that the team-first attitude was all empty talk. The team's management might have ultimately cost the 49ers its season.

Yes, in the end Crabtree received the same amount of money the team offered him in April. However, by giving him the same amount of money after such a long holdout, Crabtree ultimately got the best of the 49ers.

As soon as training camp began, San Francisco's offer to Crabtree should have decreased. Then as soon as the regular season began, that offer should have been significantly cut.

Yet Crabtree was able to take over two months off from

his job and laugh at the 49ers — all while relaxing on his couch and watching television with the remote in hand, waiting for the millions of dollars to come his way.

The result of this dramatic development is four straight losses for a team that looked primed for a playoff run. The result of San Francisco's cave-in for a player who has yet to show anything in the most talented football league in the world is a lost season for a tradition-rich franchise.

Although San Francisco was called home to the best receiver in football history, the town and its 49ers franchise might now be called home for a selfish college standout and a curse he brings to the town. San Francisco is now home to the "Curse of Michael Crabtree."

CHRIS O'DELL

serves as the sports editor for the 2009-2010 Bison. He may be contacted at codell@harding.edu

Bison Notes

Bisons stun
Division I
opponentinformation courtesy of HU
Sports InformationBison basketball
takes down UALR

Playing their second game in less than 24 hours, the Harding men's basketball team pulled off a shocking 80-77 victory over UALR, last season's Sun Belt Conference champions, Sunday in a preseason exhibition game at the Jack Stephens Center. The Bisons

had not beaten the Trojans in a regular season or exhibition game since Feb. 1, 1973.

In a game plagued by 61 fouls, free throws won it in the end for the Bisons, who open the regular season Nov. 16 at Missouri S&T. Senior Trent Morgan made four straight free throws in the game's final 11 seconds after Sam Brown gave Harding a 76-74 lead on a layup at the 35 second mark.

Trent Morgan corralled a rebound with 40 seconds left and hit Brown for a driving layup. Sophomore Tony Hall then drew a charging foul on UALR's Mike Smith, forcing the Trojans to foul Morgan. Morgan connected on both free throws and gave Harding a 78-74 advantage. UALR guard Matt Mouzy answered with a three-pointer with six seconds left to cut the Harding lead to one, but Mor-

gan hit two more free throws on the next possession to seal the game.

Harding was led in scoring by junior guard Stephen Blake, who came off the bench to score 18 points. He made three of the Bisons' seven three-pointers in the first half and finished 4-of-5 from three-point range.

Sam Brown scored 15 points and Trent Morgan added 11 for Harding.

Henderson making impact
on Bisons early in careerby CHRIS O'DELL
sports editor

With a new look defense this season, the Harding football team has had several new faces explode onto the scene for the Bisons. With multiple transfers and incoming freshmen, the team is currently undergoing a new look. However, one of those new players might soon become a familiar face to Bison football fans.

Redshirt freshman Kennard Henderson has been one of many key contributors on the defensive side of the ball for the Bisons. Not only has Henderson made an impact early in his Bison football career, but he has also become a key part of the Bison defense.

Henderson was recently named Gulf South Conference Defensive Player of the Week, following his performance in the Bisons' 27-22 victory over Henderson State during Homecoming weekend.

"Winning GSC player of the week was an honor for me, and I give all thanks to God for allowing me to perform well enough to receive an honor like that, especially during my redshirt freshman year," Henderson said.

Henderson became the second Harding defender to claim weekly accolades this season. During his impressive game against the Reddies, he racked up a career-high 14 tackles, including seven solo stops. The Texarkana, Texas, native also forced a fumble and recovered another. He returned the fumble 50 yards for a Bison touchdown. It was Harding's first defensive touchdown of the season and gave his team a 21-10 lead in the third quarter.

"I feel that was the start of me stepping up and making something happen at the right time,"

Henderson said. "But now that I've done so I have to work harder to receive it again."

The 5-foot-7 linebacker's 50-yard fumble return was the sixth longest in school history and the longest since Tank Daniels' 79-yard return against Missouri Southern in 2004.

Henderson ended the season with 48 tackles, which was good for seventh on the team. The redshirt freshman also had an interception, a fumble recovery and two forced fumbles on the season. Henderson said the improved defense this season can be attributed to a new coaching philosophy.

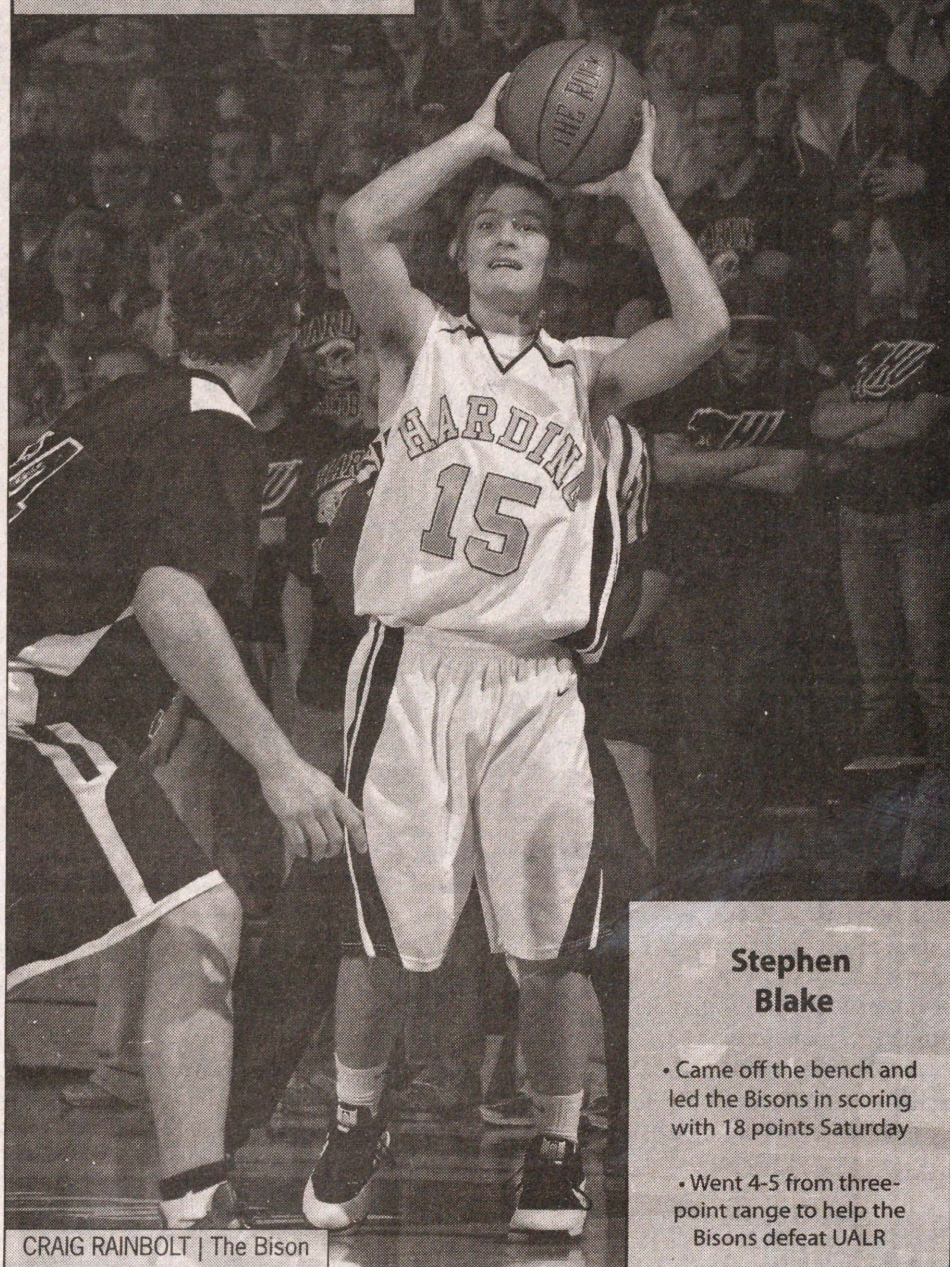
"I think the four-man front has helped a lot, and their ability to go out every game and play as well as they do," Henderson said. "We have a new scheme, and it's perfect when we play it how we are supposed to."

The Bisons concluded the 2009 season with a loss to Arkansas Tech this past Saturday. Henderson said despite the team finishing 5-6, the Bisons are improving each season.

"Our season went well for the most part," Henderson said. "As a team we don't feel we met all of our expectations, but we met some. And to get to the top it may take a while because we all know that patience is the key to success."

If the team shows as much improvement next season as it did this season on defense, it might be one to look out for in the Gulf South Conference. Although the Bisons just ended the season, and next season is too far away to think about right now, the team can rest assured it has a young playmaker at linebacker. After completing his redshirt freshman season Saturday, Henderson will be a player Bison fans will become well familiar with for several years to come.

Athlete of the Week

Stephen
Blake

• Came off the bench and led the Bisons in scoring with 18 points Saturday

• Went 4-5 from three-point range to help the Bisons defeat UALR

CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Hockey: the underdog of the sports world

SARAH KYLE

Guest Sports
Column

So it's fall. The fans are cheering wildly at the World Series, the

end of the baseball season. Almost every college male in America settles down on his couch each Monday night and banter about the beginnings of Monday Night Football. And while football and baseball are both great sports and require a great deal

of talent, I'd like to suggest that we turn our attention to a different sport: the great game of hockey.

You see, as most of the guys were mapping out their fantasy football teams and debating over which teams would make it to the World

Series this year, I, with a handful of other students, celebrated October as the beginning of the National Hockey League's regular season.

Now before I say what I'm about to say, let me prevent the angry mobs of men by saying I truly do appreciate football and baseball. The sports all share a physical aspect and a focus on precision. However, there's just something insanely amazing about the idea of a sport in which the players not only are trying to score points — they're doing it while skating on ice. The sport incorporates grace, strength, entertainment and warfare into a single entity.

Unlike football, the game has a much more continuous flow of action. Instead of 15 seconds of action and then a minute of deliberation by referees, hockey spectators must stay on their toes and watch minutes of uninterrupted action. It is fast-paced and can change literally at the last minute.

I also truly have an appreciation for the ratings system: So often in sports, no matter how amazing a team does, if it loses in overtime, it gets no credit for even making it to

overtime. In hockey, however, games are assigned a point value — with teams earning 0 points for a regular game loss, one for an overtime or shootout loss, and two for a win. I believe that this system better represents the quality and talent of the teams instead of an "all-or-nothing" policy that can be skewed by a lucky goal.

With a regular season spanning from the beginning of October until mid-April, a hockey fan rarely lacks the ability to cheer for their favorite team. With the season spanning six months, it's hard to make predictions about which team will make it to the Stanley Cup each year — a fact that makes the sport more interesting and exciting to me.

Since I am from Colorado, I'm a huge Avalanche fan and would love to say that I was 100 percent confident that the team is on the road to the Stanley Cup, but the fact is that it is truly too early to tell. With only 19 out of 82 games under their belt, it is impossible to look at the team's current record of 12 wins and seven losses and say that we're a shoo-in for the defining championship of the NHL. Likewise, it would be unfair to say that just because our rivals, the

Detroit Red Wings, haven't been doing great thus far that they'll never make it to the Stanley Cup.

The sport is in a season of changes and new starts, with hockey greats like Joe Sakic of the Avs retiring before the start of the 2009 season. New players and coaches are learning how to work together, as veterans are learning to accept and play with the replacements of those who have retired and moved on. Until this happens, there is no way of knowing which teams the season will favor.

This complexity is part of why I love the sport so much. It's not black and white, and predictions are virtually impossible to make. It is a game of change, intensity and suspense.

So when you're sitting down to watch the World Series and planning out your fantasy football teams, consider giving the underdog of the sports world some attention, and turn your mind to the icy greatness of hockey.

SARAH KYLE is a guest sports columnist for the 2009-2010 Bison. She may be contacted at skyle@harding.edu

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MSAC hosts international etiquette dinner

by **ABBY KELLETT**
student writer

Planning on going overseas? It may be crucial you know to let the host sit closest to the door at a meal in China or to use a knife and fork while eating fruit in Brazil. Maybe you plan to visit Germany. If so, and you decide to give flowers to a romantic interest, it may be even more crucial you know to never choose lilies; they are associated with funerals.

All these different etiquettes came to the attention of Gabby Marcellini nearly two years ago, inspiring the AMA (American Marketing Association) and MSAC (Multicultural Student Action Committee) International Etiquette Dinner Nov. 5th. Marcellini is a Spanish major minoring in leadership studies at Harding, and she headed a committee that founded the newest way to teach students just a few of the numerous cultural differences that exist in the world.

"I think it caught my interest when I went to China on a course trip two summers ago," Marcellini said. "We kept making all these blunders, and so I guess, just with personal experience, I just wanted to help other people know that there are many differences out there."

In the Heritage Center more than 30 people experienced something similar to Marcellini's Chinese encounter. A variety of food, drinks and speakers represented five different countries: China, Brazil, Germany, India and the United States.

One of the speakers was quite literally international. Harding Bible professor Dr. Eddie Cloer, had his son-in-law currently living as a full-time missionary living just north of Delhi, call and record a speech about India's culture for the dinner.

Other events that evening included a buffet featuring curry chicken to represent India, sweet and sour pork to represent China and white

rice to represent the two countries as well. Roasted vegetables and pineapple were also served, which is a key side dish in Brazil. On the dessert menu: American cheesecake and German chocolate cake.

Marcellini's idea for the dinner grew under the Multicultural Student Action Committee, but not much time passed before MSAC realized they needed quite a bit more help to pull off the event.

"I'm a Spanish major," Marcellini said. "I'm also half Argentine, so I have the cultural background, but I don't know anything about business at all. I don't think I've ever even been in the Mabee building!"

MSAC teamed up with AMA in October to begin planning what would soon lead to a new way to host the Business Department's etiquette dinner. Under the eye of Dr. Lori Sloan, the two groups submitted recipes to Aramark to begin preparing, and then they got to work on the guest list.

"AMA has been so helpful," Marcellini said. "They ran all of the booths to get ticket sales for us, they were amazing with advertising, and the posters they made are beautiful. The people on the committee have been at every meeting, and they've been very punctual."

The purpose of MSAC is to help educate the students on Harding's campus about the richness that other cultures have to offer both American and international students.

"[The purpose of MSAC] is basically what I want out of this dinner: to help them learn the cultural dos and don'ts and to help them be respectful of other cultures and to realize that there are other ways of life other than our own."

For more information on the organizations, visit the MSAC Facebook group or contact AMA sponsor Lori Sloan in the Business Department.

and they know the schools, youth ministers and families in their areas well.

Harding also costs substantially less than other schools the university's prospective students may be considering, which further contributes to the enrollment increases, Dillard said.

The most significant factor in whether students choose to attend Harding, according to Dillard, is if they have visited campus.

"We have found that the majority of the students who come and visit here end up enrolling here," Dillard said. "That's why we host so many big visit days, Bison Daze visit weekends and Fall Previews and Winter Preview days. ... They [students from outside

Arkansas] see what's here, and they meet the friendly people, and they see the beautiful campus, and they find out about academics and the spiritual values on campus and think, 'That's what I want.'"

The incoming freshman class is overall a smarter class than previous ones, which has been an annual trend.

"We are having a brighter student body come to Harding each year," Dillard said.

Of the students from the 2009-10 freshman class, 144 scored a 30 or higher on the ACT, and 11 were National Merit Finalists. Dillard said that as these students apply to Harding, other students are more likely to enroll here.

Marine vet shares life, story with students

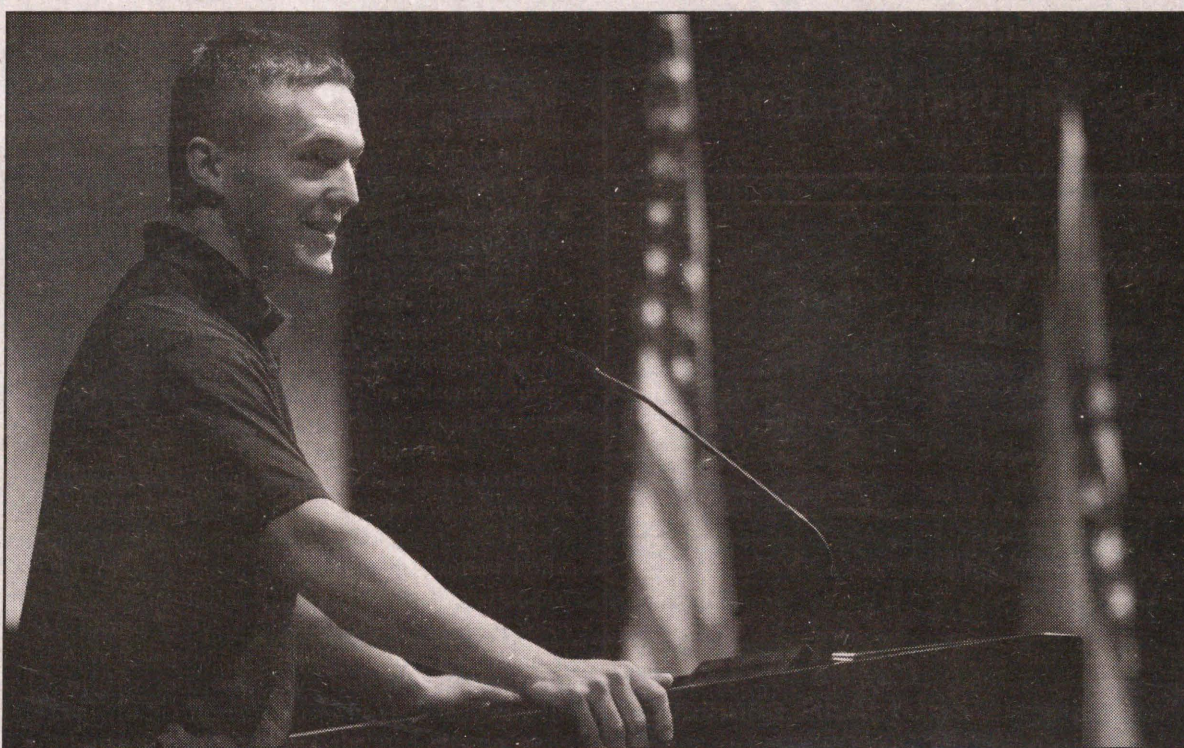


photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison
Marine veteran and Harding alumnus Marshall Sexson speaks to Harding students at Wednesday's Veterans Day chapel. Sexson is just one of many in the Harding family who have served in the military.

'Between the Lines' seminar

by **AERIAL WHITING**
assistant copy editor

A four-woman panel discussed the development of the feminine voice Nov. 3 at the L.C. Sears Seminar "In Between the Lines: The Narrative of the Feminine Voice" in Cone Chapel.

Dr. Clea Bunch, assistant history professor at University of Arkansas at Little Rock, joined assistant English professors Dr. Deveryle James and Dr. Stephanie Eddleman and associate history professor Dr. Julie Harris for the seminar.

Each professor took turns presenting a different aspect of the feminine voice. Bunch, who specializes in the history of the modern Middle East and U.S.-Middle Eastern relations, spoke on women in the Middle East; James spoke on women in film; Eddleman spoke on women in literature; and Harris spoke on women in history from the Dark Ages onward.

Americans have a lot of misconceptions about Middle Eastern women, Bunch said.

Many of the problems women in the Middle East face are problems of culture and tradition, not religion. People in the United States tend to focus on Iran and Saudi Arabia, where religion

is part of government, so they see the restrictions there and attribute them to Islam, according to Bunch.

Also, according to Bunch, the Middle East is only a few decades behind the West in women's rights.

"A lot of young [American] women don't realize how recently women in our country didn't have rights," Bunch said.

She gave the example that in the 1960s and '70s, married women could not get a credit card in their own name.

One of the reasons for the discrepancy that does exist is that because of the war on terror, people in the Middle East are preoccupied with safety concerns, Bunch said. Furthermore, they have economic concerns such as housing and food prices, and women's rights are secondary to these issues.

The Middle East is a diverse area, according to Bunch. Clothing restrictions, for instance, range from very liberal in Lebanon to very covered in the Gulf States. She said she has even seen such combinations as women wearing hijab and jeans.

Women in the Middle East may face restrictions in terms of clothing, but even women in the U.S. have faced limitations on-screen.

Women in film used to be more limited in the roles they played, but now they run the "wide spectrum from victim to villain," James said.

According to James, the first actresses were pretty or helpless, and men were the stars of film. Feminist film theory has contributed to the greater diversity of the roles women portray.

Initially only men directed movies, which affected the roles women played, James said. Eventually, however, female directors emerged, such as Agnès Varda in France and Sofia Coppola in the U.S. Other female directors include Kimberly Pierce and Nora Ephron, who directed "Sleepless in Seattle."

While women's roles have expanded, women continued to be sexualized in film, James said.

Prior to film, women faced obstacles in literature. Eddleman, who focused mainly on literature in the 18th century at the seminar, said that some of the first female writers were protest writers, and they were not accepted well.

According to Eddleman, women authors started to lose their voice, but their writing became more acceptable. Women began writing didactic novels, a novel form characteristic of

the 18th century.

Some women found ways to protest through didactic novels, as Jane Austen did in her works. Eddleman said that she protested through her irony.

Other women would use an alias when they published their writing. For example, Mary Anne Evans assumed the pen name "George Eliot" for her works.

Further back in history, in the Middle Ages, most women were not concerned with making their voices heard in writing, Harris said. Literacy rates were considerably lower than they are today, and about 85 percent of the population was involved in agriculture, leaving a small number of people who had the opportunity to write. Literature was the domain of scribes, Harris said.

According to Harris, it was the Renaissance, that generated inequality between women and men, Harris said. Emphasis shifted toward men supporting the family while the women stayed home, which limited their voice.

Concerning women in general, Eddleman said, "It's like we're having to carve out a space." But from the tenor of the discussion, women are carving out that space slowly but surely.

Upcoming school year to exceed application, acceptance rates

by **AERIAL WHITING**
assistant copy editor

Harding Admissions is ahead of last year in terms of applications received and students accepted, and the incoming class will be bright and service-oriented, according to Glenn Dillard, assistant vice president for enrollment management.

Admissions is up about 1.5 percent on applications and 2 percent on accepted students, Dillard said. This contributes to the Admissions staff's goal of gradually increasing enrollment.

Dillard said he thinks the increase is due in large part to the staff and recruiters' efforts. Admissions has the same staff as last year,

and they know the schools, youth ministers and families in their areas well.

Harding also costs substantially less than other schools the university's prospective students may be considering, which further contributes to the enrollment increases, Dillard said.

The most significant factor in whether students choose to attend Harding, according to Dillard, is if they have visited campus.

"We have found that the majority of the students who come and visit here end up enrolling here," Dillard said. "That's why we host so many big visit days, Bison Daze visit weekends and Fall Previews and Winter Preview days. ... They [students from outside

Arkansas] see what's here, and they meet the friendly people, and they see the beautiful campus, and they find out about academics and the spiritual values on campus and think, 'That's what I want.'"

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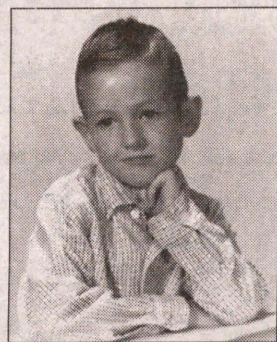
"We are having a brighter student body come to Harding each year," Dillard said.

Of the students from the 2009-10 freshman class, 144 scored a 30 or higher on the ACT, and 11 were National Merit Finalists. Dillard said that as these students apply to Harding, other students are more likely to enroll here.

In addition to being a smart class, this class has demonstrated a huge interest in service to the community and student body, Dillard said. Student Association president Bryan Clifton sent a letter this summer regarding service to about 50 incoming freshmen whom Admissions selected. Dillard said the response to the letter was "phenomenal."

According to Dillard, students replied saying, "I want to be involved. I want to serve the student body. I want to be involved in community service. I want to do what I can to help lead the students." He [Clifton] was overwhelmed; we were overwhelmed with the positive response."

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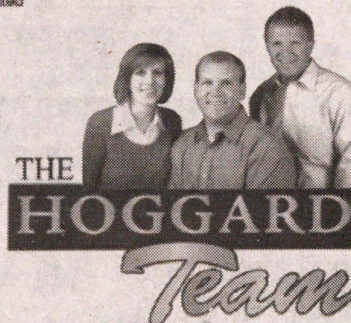
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Sudoku

		2						4
					8			7
9	5		3		1			6
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	9	6					7	5
	4	1	5				6	

Cryptogram

Decipher the code — each letter represents another — to find some words of wisdom.

DVR HYGH TWYVRNEUYA LWIORN ZYHV
L TIIBXLZZ, XOB YB NIVER'B

EVVD BI GWLGH. PIDVR BWVLB YB ZYHV
FZLEE LRN YB FIVE BI AYGVE.

~ LRRV DIWWIP ZYRNXVWFU

Hint: D = M

Answer to last issue's
Sudoku and Crossword

9	3	2	7	1	5	8	6	4
7	8	1	6	4	3	9	2	5
4	6	5	8	2	9	7	3	1
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3	9	8	2	7	1	4	5	6
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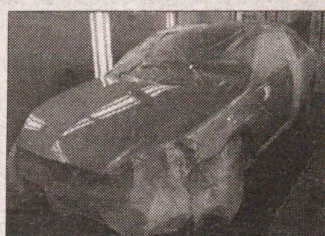
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Staying between the lines:
students color in chapel

by KIM KOKERNOT
features editor

Followed by the noisy shuffle of students settling into their chapel seats, a sea of heads bowed in silence — but not in prayer. Around the auditorium, eager hands swished back and forth across coloring pages, which were a surprise waiting beneath each chapel seat Thursday morning. Faces smiled in excitement as friends showed one another new works of art.

As thousands of students colored, senior Jennifer Gibson and junior Abby Kellett watched anxiously. Though coloring in chapel was an unexpected treat for students, it served a greater purpose than just entertainment.

Gibson and Kellett coordinated the coloring project through Color a Smile, a nonprofit organization that sends out 4,000 colored pictures to the elderly in retirement homes and through Meals on Wheels every month as an act of encouragement.

The girls set a goal of accumulating 4,000 pictures from Harding students and decided the most efficient way to get them would be through chapel.

"For some people in nursing homes, the only mail they get are bills," Kellett said. "To get a picture along with their bills makes their day. Just the thought of making 4,000 people's day next month — I love that."

Senior Thomas Hill said that the project was a good way to help uplift the often overlooked elderly population.

"In today's society, [the elderly] are often kind of neglected," Hill said. "Even though it may not be the same as going and visiting the elderly, this is a step in

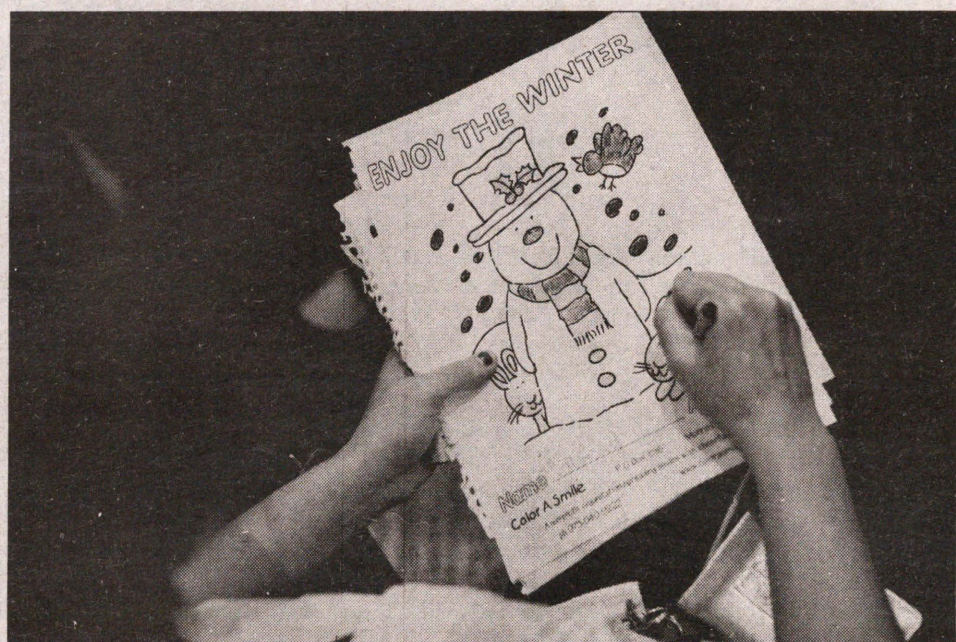


photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison

Senior Lindsay Bolton colors in chapel Thursday morning. Pictures will be given to the elderly through a nonprofit organization called Color a Smile.

the right direction by trying to encourage them in some way."

Kellett said she initially worried that students might not participate but was thrilled to see students take part.

"I looked out, and everyone was coloring," Kellett said. "It was the greatest feeling knowing that you had this idea, and people are doing it. We're going to make such a huge difference."

The coloring idea emerged in response to an assignment in Kellett and Gibson's Christian Media Ethics class. They were instructed to design a project in which they would use their skill sets to do something with an implicit or explicit spiritual message.

"It's a project for a class, but also it's important to help everyone have the opportunity to give back," Gibson said. "I saw a lot of people coloring, and we're going to get a lot of pictures that we can send

to [Color a Smile]."

Freshman Hannah Allen said that she thought the project was a great idea.

"It got us involved in what they were doing," Allen said. "We didn't have to go anywhere because it was right at our hands and feet, and that was cool."

Christian Media Ethics professor Dr. Jim Miller said that he believes in the work they are doing and worked with the girls to refine ideas and get the project approved.

"What they're doing is an effort to make a difference in somebody's life, to brighten somebody's day," Miller said. "That's a message that every Christian should be concerned about."

But taking the idea to color during chapel and getting it approved was a challenge, Kellett said. After being told it likely would not happen, one moment in class made it a possibility.

On a day when President

David Burks came to visit their class, Kellett presented her idea. She said that Burks responded positively and did not see a problem with students coloring in chapel.

"After that, doors started swinging open," Kellett said.

Kellett and Gibson then had to find funding. The Student Association stepped up to pay for the cost of crayons, and the chapel office agreed to ship the finished pictures to Color a Smile.

"When stuff like that comes together for no reason, I think that's a God thing," Kellett said.

Miller said that this project teaches students how they can be "salt and light" in their future career field and make a positive difference.

"I think it's a great idea, and the goals that they have are easily attainable," Miller said. "It's a goal that's going to make a difference in 4,000 people's lives."

The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 OK town
- 5 Centavo
- 9 Tint
- 14 Portend
- 15 Grad
- 16 Box seats
- 17 Dancer
- 19 Adolescent hooter
- 20 Crab cover
- 21 Realized
- 23 Japanese capital
- 24 Charity
- 27 Rascal
- 28 Recipe amt. (Abbr.)
- 29 Heifer
- 32 Replete
- 34 Charged particle
- 36 Domain
- 38 Extraordinary
- 43 Horse controls
- 45 Assistance
- 46 Swords
- 47 Gate
- 50 Sea eagles
- 51 Energy unit
- 52 Some votes
- 54 Singer Bandy
- 55 Unit of elec. current
- 58 Highest (Abbr.)
- 60 Elbow bone
- 62 Dinner vegetable
- 63 Novice
- 65 Spry
- 69 Excuse
- 71 Amphibious reptile
- 74 Old movie
- 75 Clothed
- 76 Large (Pref.)
- 77 Petulant
- 78 Mexican dish

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79 Isr. short story
writer Oz

Down

- 1 Wanes
- 2 Original zoo keeper
- 3 Unfounded
- 4 Perry Mason's Street
- 5 Equality
- 6 Samuel's teacher
- 7 Doomed (Slang)
- 8 Muscat resident
- 9 Plodder
- 10 In what way
- 11 Shoelace end
- 12 Financial documents
- 13 Bar, legally
- 18 Wings
- 22 African ruler
- 25 Disfigure
- 26 Pilfer
- 29 Freshwater fish
- 30 Biscuit
- 31 Low dam
- 33 A Bronte
- 35 Scruff
- 37 Wager
- 39 Farewell
- 40 Snowbank
- 41 Talk show host
- 42 To be (Lat.)
- 44 Close inspection
- 48 Grotesque
- 49 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 53 Hitch
- 55 Separated
- 56 Disturbance
- 57 Duets
- 59 Parcel of land
- 61 Terrestrial lizard
- 64 Talipot palm leaf
- 66 Component
- 67 Trademark
- 68 Time periods
- 70 Conjunction
- 72 Varnish
- 73 Wedding words

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Long-awaited release of 'Modern Warfare 2' does not disappoint

by **BRETT JONES**
student writer

Whether you're a video game enthusiast or not, you've probably heard some of the buzz surrounding Tuesday's release of "Modern Warfare 2," the sixth and latest installment in the "Call of Duty" series. According to the Washington Post, early projections put first-day sales of the first-person shooter at about 7 million worldwide, with as many as 14 million expected to sell by year's end.

Although I would hesitate to style myself a "gamer," I am a huge fan of the "Call of Duty" series. I own and regularly play "Modern Warfare 2"'s two immediate predecessors, "Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare" and "Call of Duty: World at War." Consequently, I have been excited for some time about the release of "Modern 2."

However, my income being what it is, I told myself I would not buy "Modern Warfare 2" the day it came out but would wait some months until prices came down. (Besides, only geeks buy video games on their release date, right?)

Tuesday came around, and I began hearing whispering about it in class and reading Facebook statuses lauding its slick graphics and all-around awesomeness. Still resolute in my determination not to purchase the game, I decided to at least read an online review of the game to see how well it was received.

I made it about halfway through the article. Twenty minutes, 60 bucks and one financially unsound impulse purchase later, I was gleefully offing Russian militants and South American guerillas with a vast and beautifully rendered arsenal of the most sophisticated weapons

the near future has to offer.

Built on an upgraded version of previous versions' graphics engine, "Modern 2"'s visuals are impeccable. With a remarkably detailed environment and incredibly life-like characters, "Modern 2" looks more like a Michael Bay blockbuster than a video game.

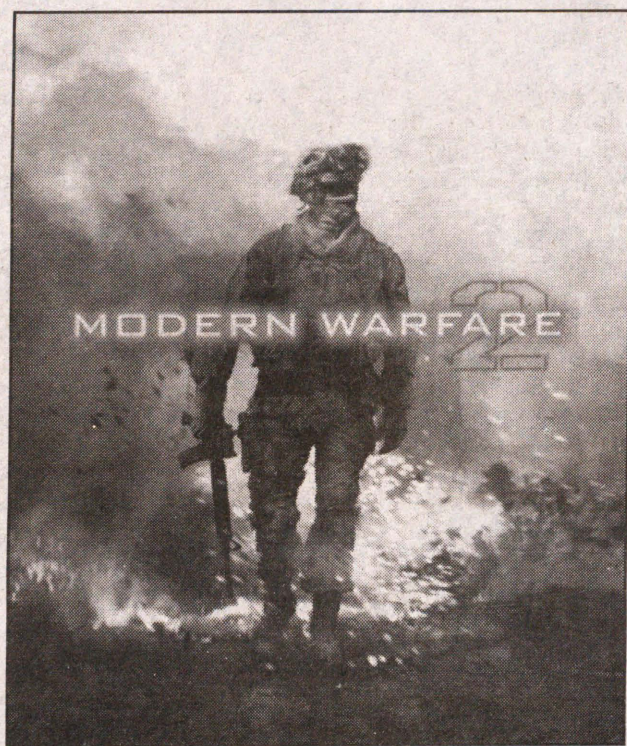
The game has essentially the same controls as its predecessors, which means all the sick skills I developed during hours of playing "World at War" online are almost immediately transferable! There are also many new elements, which enhance game play and make "Modern 2" unique.

There are a number of new vehicles that players can commandeer, including Humvees, underwater scuba vehicles and even snowmobiles (my personal favorite).

The game features considerably more weapons than previous installments and allows users to customize their gear with a whole host of upgrades, including holographic and thermal sights and even a "heart-rate monitor," which acts in place of the ubiquitous "radar."

Players are even afforded the opportunity to control Predator drones, providing their own air support by guiding missiles directly onto targets via their trusty Toughbook.

"Modern Warfare 2"'s solo campaign is set five years from the end of the previous game's plot, which puts the game just far enough in the future to allow for some imaginative, futuristic weaponry while maintaining a current events feel. The game begins with the player controlling PFC



James Allen, an Army Ranger in Afghanistan who subsequently goes undercover (Spoiler alert!) with the CIA and infiltrates a Russian terrorist organization headed by Vladimir Makarov, a former protégé of Imran Zakhaev, the chief antagonist from "Call of Duty 4."

In a truly troubling scene, Allen assists Makarov in a terrorist attack on a Russian airport. The player can choose to either participate in the slaughter or simply watch as hundreds of civilians are slaughtered by the machine gun-wielding terrorists. As they make their escape, Makarov kills Allen and leaves his body at the scene.

Turns out he knew all along that Allen was a rat and intended to use him as a scapegoat for the attack. An outraged Russia launches a full-scale invasion of the United States, which leads to such unsettling experiences as assaulting a TGI Friday's look alike and fighting house-to-house in suburban Virginia.

Although single-player

campaigns are important, it is the online multiplayer experience that truly defines the series. "Modern 2"'s online game play is similar to its predecessors, but it adds even more fun perks to mix things up. Players are rewarded for kill streaks with such goodies as autonomous sentry turrets, Predator drones and EMPs (which disable all electronics, including some gun sights).

Another feature is the introduction of bonuses such as increased health or a "last stand" for struggling players. (I personally dislike this as it affords my roommate an opportunity to mock me.)

While a two-player co-op campaign mode such as was found in previous installments would be nice, I can find very little else to criticize in "Modern 2." My advice to anyone with \$65 in the bank, a compatible game system and a willingness to endure Harding's often-inadequate Internet connection: Go out and bring home the game of the year.

Librarian helps preserve history

by **KYLIE AKINS**
assistant news editor

Harding's history has been long-preserved in The Bison newspapers stored in the archives of the library, waiting for the curious eye to wander over and peek into the past to rediscover the history of a social club or of an alumnus relative. But with issues dating from 1925, a tedious task is ahead of anyone wishing as they thumb through every publication since to find the desired information.

Retired Harding librarian Winnie Bell saw the need for a convenient way to search through The Bison and began to create an index made available to the public through The Bison's Web site, www.thebison.harding.edu. She started this project nearly 15 years ago and still has a looming task ahead of her, having currently indexed every story of each issue since Harding's origins until 1994.

Bell graduated from Harding in 1949 with a degree in business and went on to work at a bank in Oklahoma for 10 years. She received her master's degree from Peabody College and eventually ended up back at Harding to live with her sister who worked at Harding at the time. Bell worked as a librarian at Harding for 31 years, from 1959 until she retired in 1990. Continuing to work as a volunteer librarian after her retirement, she took up creating an index for the Bison in 1995.

As a former librarian, Bell said she understands the need for an organized record keeping system, especially when it concerns historical information.

"I guess it's just an old librarian habit," Bell said as she chuckled. "We like to find something when we need it."

Having already sorted through almost 70 years of publications, Bell has seen change in the content

throughout the years. She said the writing drastically improved over time as Harding's journalism department became stronger. Photography advanced, and stories shifted from the history of Harding's beginnings in 1925 to current political issues like former president Bill Clinton's affair in the 1990s. However, she was amused that stories about the cafeteria problems remained fairly constant.

"I enjoy being able to read the articles, things I remember and things I learn about," said Bell. "I'm just trying to make it as interesting and useful as possible."

People most often interested in information from past Bisons include alumni that return for Homecoming, new social club members and people researching Harding's history.

"It was one of those things I thought that there should be a decent way of looking back and seeing what happened in past years and seeing when so-and-so was here," Bell said. "I just thought, well someone ought to do it. I guess that's me."

Kay Gowen, Harding's director of Abundant Living senior outreach and former faculty advisor for The Bison and Petit Jean, emphasized how important The Bison is to keeping accurate records of Harding's past.

"It's like any other history," Gowen said. "You need to know where we are, where we came from and how we got there. I think people that don't understand that times were once different than they are right now miss out an awful lot on understanding the world and the people in it."

Bell has taken on an intimidating task and will continue to diligently volunteer her time to provide this service. The index can be accessed through The Bison Web site under "Archives," and the past publications are available in the Brackett Library.

Eat healthy this Thanksgiving

submitted by **THE DIETETICS CLUB**

- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup walnut pieces, toasted

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit. Scrub sweet potatoes, and pierce all over with a fork. Place on an oven rack. Bake for 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 hours or until tender. Set aside to cool slightly.

2. Cut each potato in half lengthwise. Using a spoon, scoop pulp from each potato half, leaving a 1/4- to 1/2- inch shell. Place pulp in medium bowl. Set aside shells.

3. Using a potato masher or a fork, mash potato pulp until smooth. Stir in relish, cranberries, butter and salt. Spoon potato mixture into each potato shell. Place, filled sides up, in a 15x10x1-inch baking pan. Sprinkle with walnuts.

4. Bake for 25-35 minutes or until heated through. Makes 10 servings.

Test Kitchen Tip: To make ahead, place stuffed potato shells in baking pan. Cover and chill up to 24 hours. To serve: Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Bake, uncovered, for 30-35 minutes or until heated through.

Nutrition Facts

Calories: 158, Total Fat: 6g, Saturated Fat: 2g, Monounsaturated Fat: 1g, Polyunsaturated Fat: 3g, Cholesterol: 6mg, Sodium: 174mg, Carbohydrate: 25g, Total Sugar: 7g, Fiber: 3g, Protein: 2g, Vitamin A: 0 DV%, Vitamin C: 7 DV%, Calcium: 3 DV%, Iron: 4 DV%, Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

Twice-baked Sweet Potatoes:

Ingredients

- 5 medium sweet potatoes (10 oz. each)
- 1/2 cup cranberry relish
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries or raisins
- 2 Tbsp. butter, softened

Girls club football seeks competitive edge

by **JESSICA ARDREY**
student writer

Sports are a fun way to strengthen friendships with club mates and to build them with members of different social clubs. Most of the games are good-spirited, but it is not always all smiles. Some of these matches have a tendency to get a little rough, and some of these clubs are not messing around.

If you have ever been to a women's club sporting event, you know they can be intense. Blood pressures rise, and so on the sidelines, girls usually look to club athletic directors and beaux for direction, but the time for that has passed.

This year Ju Go Ju decided to step up its game. After its first game, it enlisted the help of Harding University's quarterback coach and recruiting coordinator, Gray Yates.

"We were in dire need," Ju Go Ju athletic director Tori Dobbs said. "The first game we were out there running around like chickens with our heads cut off."

After losing their first game, Dobbs told Yates, a friend of Dobbs's, about the match. Seeing her frustration, Yates offered to help.

As it turns out, Yates is also a former beau for Ju Go Ju. When he was in school, he helped coach Ju Go Ju's football team,

and it did really well. Needless to say, he was excited to make his return.

Yates worked with the girls on passing and some offensive plays, but he mainly focused on defense, emphasizing that if the players keep other girls from scoring, they would have a better chance at winning.

The girls were excited after the practice, ready with a new grasp on the somewhat foreign sport. Like other girls' clubs, not everyone was well versed in the ways of the pigskin.

"For most things, like volleyball, softball and basketball, we have girls that played in high school, but football is kind of left field for everybody," Dobbs said.

Ready for the competition, the girls put to work everything they had learned from Yates in their next game. Unfortunately, Ju Go Ju lost by one point in overtime to Shanthi. Nevertheless, Dobbs was still positive.

"It was a good game, and we all enjoyed it," Dobbs said. "It wasn't even a bummer that we lost because we still played well. We were able to figure out what worked and what didn't. It actually felt like a team."

The social club football bracket is double-elimination, so Ju Go Ju is done for this season, but next year is a different story. Dobbs is a senior, but she will keep the plays Yates gave the team and pass them off to the next athletic director.

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Philip Holsinger: Professional Wanderer

By **NICK MICHAEL**
staff photographer

In Dec. 1988, Philip Holsinger mounted a bike and began pedaling the 400-mile trek from Washington, D.C., to Portsmouth, Ohio.

A few days prior, Holsinger had cashed his airline ticket home, mailed his Christmas presents to his family in Portsmouth and pocketed the remainder for food on the road across Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands, one of the snowiest inhabited regions in the continental U.S.

Determined to depend on the hospitality of strangers for lodging, Holsinger carried a pack containing only a journal, a Bible, emergency money and an extra sweater. He stayed in a hotel only one night.

His hosts were bewildered but inspired by the icy vagrant.

"Every single day on that trip at least one person — I have it recorded in my journal — at least one person, but some days many people, would say to me, 'I wish once in my life, just once, I would have done something like this. I would have just gotten on a bicycle and just ridden,'" Holsinger said.

Thus quips the nomad's

creed: Just ride.

Holsinger's resume requires an atlas for digestion. He has served as a literature teacher in Maine, an AP photojournalist in Portsmouth, an editor-in-chief for Searcy's Daily Citizen and an analyst for a faith-based, Washington-brass, three-fork breakfast club called the Family. In the past year, he has collected visas from 11 countries on four continents. His jaw is perpetually grizzled and his journal within reach. Holsinger, for better or worse, is a professional wanderer.

"If I have to give you some simple answers, I'm living nomadically because why wouldn't I?" Holsinger said. "Why would I own a house or pay rent when I'm not there? The way that I've been traveling just hasn't made any sense economically. I mean I literally go from plane to plane."

Holsinger brims with big ideas and scrapped plans. In late 1999, he turned down an invitation to celebrate the millennium in Petra, where he meant to make a layover en route to Mongolia. A Saharan shepherding tribe known as the Taureg have invited Holsinger for an extended visit.

In 2004 an Australian hired Holsinger to develop a photojournalism department for a Burmese newspaper under an enemy-of-the-press militarist regime. On a whim, Holsinger could not bring himself to board the plane to Rangoon, which suffered the infamous tsunami the day Holsinger would have landed.

His rootlessness has proved confusing on multiple occasions. Once after a small-town church service in Harrison, Ark., an elderly woman slipped Holsinger a \$20 bill after he self-deprecatingly introduced himself as "homeless."

"She walked around kind of confused why the nice homeless man wouldn't even take her money," Holsinger said. "I usually clarify and say homeless but not destitute."

Still, sometimes it is the wanderers who pay a price.

"I've been a runner my whole life. It's been a part of my spiritual problem: uncommitted," Holsinger said. "I'm always searching and looking, and it's very difficult for me to be really intimate and committed to people."

And neither is Holsinger committed to newspapers. Despite garnering a small trophy case of AP awards, Holsinger found his editor's

desk unfulfilling at The Daily Citizen and boarded a plane.

"I wanted to go somewhere where no one would find me," Holsinger said. "So I literally walked away from my job and said I would not publish or do anything again and went to Haiti."

While Holsinger befriended a Haitian family of upper-crust Communist socialites, his relationship with his family back home suffered. His wife had already left him in 2003, but the sporadic visits with his now 13-year-old daughter became impossible. During his stay in Haiti, Holsinger began realigning priorities between photo shoots. He migrated home and began rebuffing his relationship with his daughter.

"I think my nature is truly changing," Holsinger said. "And what's funny is what has been a negative thing, and maybe negatively driven, I think God's used that now to make a gift out of it."

Holsinger, who was baptized in the early morning after a deadline at the Citizen, believes his intersection with Searcy and Harding University has been pivotal. Bruce McClarty, Mike Wood and Jim Carr are only a few of the Harding faculty whom

Holsinger cites as influences.

"If it wasn't Searcy, it was going to be somewhere else. I'm not this believer that there was some sort of fate in Searcy and in Harding. But this was the place," Holsinger said. "And I believe God orchestrated to get me here and let the bottom drop out and it stuck."

Holsinger's next project involves him and his daughter covering the slums of Portsmouth as a father-daughter photojournalist team.

"One of the things I'm desiring to do this spring is, I've gone out looking: Haiti, Nicaragua, places," Holsinger said. "I want to kind of look in my own backyard."

Still, Holsinger defends his lifestyle as inescapable.

"That people think I'm a destitute homeless guy is really a compliment because I really think like everything about my life in some ways embodies the Scripture, 'I will use the weak things of the world to confound the wise,'" Holsinger said. "I mean I don't have a degree from Harvard or you know Missouri. I mean, I'm not a master photographer. I'm not that good a writer. Like I'm really, really talented at wandering."



A peasant farmer's daughter, Charlene, requests a portrait be made of her in one of her father's rice fields outside Gonaives, Haiti, March 2008.



A mother bathes her child on a remote island off the south coast of Haiti, July 2008.